

**THE
RADOV
CHRONICLES**

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That is the land of lost content
I see it shining plain,
The happy highways where I went
And cannot come again.
For all sad words of tongue and pen
The saddest are these
'It might have been.'

FOR
ANNA RADOV



The Radov Chronicles

Table of Contents

Table of Contents.....	3-4
List of Attachments.....	5-6
Introduction.....	7-15
The Early Family Tree	17
Russian Family Tree	18
Family Tree for Conversation Participants.....	19
Participants Pictured	20-21
Bertha Blau (Ida's daughter)	22-59; 69-71
Barney R. Radov and Betty Radov (Morris' son and daughter-in-law)	60-68; 292-299
Jack Thompson (Cherna's son)	72-91; 300-306
Clare Radov Levin (Morris' daughter)	92-112; 286-291
Barney B. Radov (Joe's son)	113-128
Eileen Goldman (Minnie Radov Cohen's daughter)	129-140
Mitzi Radov Kerness (Morris' daughter)	141-152; 239-245
Morris J., Adele & Jeff Radov (Joe's son, daughter-in-law and grandson)	153-173
Joseph Mandiberg (Jack's son).....	174-180
Lynda Falkenstein and Pam Smith (Muni's daughters).....	181-202
Wendy Davaris and Barbara Bass (Cherna's granddaughters).....	203-220
Edie Radov (Sam and Betty's daughter-in-law).....	221-229
Jordan Sakol (Menyah's grandson)	230-238
Alan Kreiss (Bernard and Hennyeh's great-grandson).....	246-252
Susan Mandiberg (Arnold's daughter)	253-263

Shelle Sakol Radin (Minnie Carol Sakol's daughter-in-law)	264-274
Nancy Radov Dryer (Gus Radov's daughter)	275-282
Alan Mandiberg (Moishe's grandson)	283-285
Mike Bergida (Lena Carol Smith's son-in-law).....	307-312
Marci & Paul Rogers and Westy Radov (Joe's granddaughter, her husband and brother).....	313-321
Barney Halperin (Ida's son)	322-342

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In Memoriam.....	343-344
Family Trees	345-357
Attachments.....	A1-133
Family Photos.....	B1
Pre-1910s	B2-3
1910s-1930s.....	B4-20
1940s-1950s.....	B21-39
1960s-1970s.....	B40-56
1980s-1990s.....	B57-68
2000s-2010s.....	B69-92

The Radov Chronicles List of Attachments

#1 1922 Family Picture.....	A1-2
#2 Makarov and Babi Yar.....	A3-6
#3 Family Ship Manifests.....	A7-20
#4 Family Tree from Bertha Halperin Blau.....	A21-28
#5 Bootlegging Case.....	A29-31
#6 Westy Radov Email.....	A32-33
#7 Chana Chaya Radovskaia's Passport.....	A34-51
#8 Khazars.....	A52-54
#9 Morris & Luba's Passport.....	A55-59
#10 Translation of Morris & Luba's Passport.....	A60-62
#11 Humor, Cossacks & Pogroms.....	A63-66
#12 The Gaiety Delicatessen.....	A67-68
#13 Joseph Mandiberg Email.....	A69-70
#14 Fastov.....	A71-72
#15 Joseph Radov with Huckster.....	A73-74
#16 19 th Century Kiev Synagogues.....	A75-76
#17 Cherbourg & The R.M.S. Olympic.....	A77-80
#18 Yekaterinoslav and Ekaterinoslav.....	A81-85
#19 Chicken Cock Whiskey (The Radov Knock-off Brand).....	A86-88
#20 Dnieper River.....	A89-92
#21 Bucharest and its Consul.....	A93-98
#22 CBS Old Building & Cemetary.....	A99-107
#23 Familiarity, Theology & the World.....	A108-111
#24 War, Escape, Trotsky & Joseph Radov's Passport.....	A112-116

#25 Berdychiv.....	A117-120
#26 Jews, Adoption & Radovs	A121-122
#27 Ashkenazi Jews.....	A123-128
#28 Postcards from Europe	A129-133
#29 Sonya's Tale: Russia, Tzedakah, Kvetching & Impoverished Despair	A134-143

INTRODUCTION

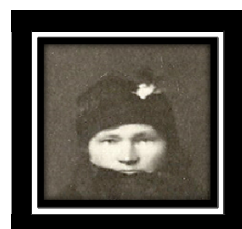
On an unknown day in the 1870s, Sheindel Bossie Mandiberg, a young Jewish girl in her 20s, having recently attended the funeral of her sister who died young leaving a husband and three little boys, ended her mourning. She married her brother-in-law, becoming her nephews' stepmother and caregiver. Those boys – Kayfman, Beryl and Pasey – had been living with their father, Yakov, in or around the nearby *shtetls* (the restricted Jewish sections of towns) of Makarov and Yekaterinaslav – about 30 miles from Kiev. Their father held a prominent position as the Clerk of Courts, an honor for a Jew at that time, but needed someone to take care of his children. Sheindel Bossie Mandiberg, now Radov, helped raise those children and bore him five more: Menya, Joseph, Ida, Cherna and Morris.

Life in the *shtetl*, never easy, was made more difficult by the events occurring everywhere in the Ukraine. The eldest son, Kayfman, left *shtetl* life in the most traumatic way to his family, entering the priesthood, and became the one not spoken of. Beryl, having sired four daughters by his wife, Hennyeh, died of appendicitis early in the new century. His widow and daughters found their way out of Russia in 1911, traveling to New York and eventually Boston. Before that, Joseph took his wife, Cirka, to join her relatives in Erie. He returned to Russia in 1911 to rescue more family, including his sister Ida (or, in the lyrical tone intended by her parents, Khana Khaia Radovskaia). Independently, Sheindel's brother brought more of his family to join Mandibergs already in New York and the deli business. WWI made it impossible for the family to continue their exodus, with the further horror and delay of the Russian Revolution. However, worse for the family were the Kiev Pogroms of 1919 (the pogroms were loosely organized savage mob attacks by Cossacks, soldiers or *ad hoc* gangs, sometimes government or church directed, sometimes spontaneous, on Eastern Europe Jewish communities) which took the life of one of Menya's daughters, saw the rape of another, Lena, and witnessed the stabbing and torture of Pasey.

For centuries, Jews were restricted to certain parts of Russia (within, not beyond, The Pale), and rarely allowed in the larger cities, at least not legally. After the emancipation of the serfs in 1861 (The Peasant Reform of 1861) and the further relaxation of settlement rules by Tsar Alexander II, many came to Kiev. They had lived there off and on, between expulsions since at least 991, probably earlier. They had officially been allowed to trade in street fairs from 1797, composing more than half the fair participants. After the emancipation of the serfs, further urban migration was allowed, with about 1 in 8 in Kiev being Jews by the time of the 1881 Pogroms. All of this exacerbated tensions, with further pogroms in and around Kiev in 1905 and 1919, and the blood libel trial of 1911. As settlement in Kiev became more permanent, synagogues began to

1922 Arrival Pictures

(Sheindel, Jacob, Menya,
Lena, Esther)



Widowed in Russia

(Beryl and Hennyeh)



appear in the 1890s. (See, 19th Century Kiev Synagogues, A75-76). Nevertheless, most of the family likely lived in one of the small communities, or *shtetls*, which had traditionally accepted Jews.

1922 Arrival Pictures

(Peter, Wolf, Cherna, Muni, Bill)

As a result of the two Russian Revolutions, 1905 and 1917, and the reforms of Pyotr Stolypin in between, these restrictions gradually changed, and life became somewhat easier. Morris, and likely many in the family, moved to the once closed city, Fastov, the railroad capital of southern Russia, after the Revolution.

In 1922, through ingenuity and energy, while working for the Russian railroads in Fastov, Morris escaped with the remaining family from Fastov to Bucharest. There, with the help of the bootlegging monies made by Joseph, a successful entrepreneur in Erie, the remaining family traveled to the French port of Cherbourg and then aboard the *R.M.S. Olympic* [see, Cherbourg & the R.M.S. Olympic, A77-80], sister ship to the *Titanic*, across the Atlantic to the United States.

Most of the stories, a number of the names, and much of what happened has been lost. In the following pages, a few of those stories and some of those names, are recounted. For those who are related to this group – the Radovs, Kernesses, Halperins, Blaus, Bases, Carls, Carols, Thompsons, Levins, Smiths, Sakols, Landaus, Falkensteins, Mays, Trabolds, Cohens, Goldmans, Radins, Rogers', Dryers, Bergidas, Hermans, Kreiss', Mandibergs, Davaris', Notarius', Murrays, Kings, Rabelskys, Theils, Harris' and many others – these are the stories of those who got us out of Russia and made a life here. My real appreciation, on a personal note, for how lucky we were – not only to escape pogroms, wars, and the Shoah – but the earlier life in general – came when I returned to Russia through the State Department to live there in 1995 and again in 2002, and witnessed a country that everywhere was morose, bleak, spiritless, fragmented, impoverished and unmitigatingly tragic (and had miserable food).

This project was inspired by questions of children and grandchildren who have little memory of any of this. Perhaps more surprisingly, many of us who grew up with and knew the Russian immigrants, and ought to have known better, also know very little. The best storyteller left, without question, is Bertha Blau (Ida's daughter) and none of this recollection could have occurred without her. The others who spoke, my cousins, also gave their memories, sometimes imperfect, and other times surprising themselves by what they

remembered. I have taken liberties as an editor, correcting some factual miscues, limiting the repetition, and editing out most negative things said about people (although perhaps not everything). There is, then, something of a whitewashed veneer in the process. I justify this in that, while many involved had a few weaknesses – some braggadocio, some roughness, some tight-fistedness, and the occasional wandering eye – the strengths and humor are



1911 Arrival

(Chana Chaya, Ida)



what I was looking for and found. All of the rest – the imperfect marriages, onerous in-laws, financial disputes, and a few brushes with the law – can be left to someone else's pen.

1922 Arrival Pictures

(Barney Bass)



The Radovs, then, arrived here speaking Yiddish, learning English, davening in Hebrew, and forgetting Russian. Almost to a person, they were tradesmen, peddlers or bakers, often hawking whatever wares were at hand, whether fruits and vegetables, furniture, baked goods, clothing or scrap. They entered into partnerships and businesses on handshakes with each other, and with others who were related, almost related, or at least spoke Yiddish. Over time, the bootlegging and gambling businesses which had sustained the family during Prohibition turned to more reputable businesses, and eventually through their children, to the trades of the college educated. That said, family gatherings had the air of Yiddish and broken Yiddish, card playing and elaborate Eastern European food – from *kneydlech*, *kreplach* and *borscht* soups, to endless *kugels*, *farfels*, and *challahs* accompanying the cholesterol-accumulating and cardiac-choking array of salamis, briskets, chopped liver, cooked meats and smoked fish, followed by *mandelbrot*, *schneken*, and cakes, not to mention various arrays of *blintzes*, *latkas*, *lox* and *gefilte* fish. These, along with the ubiquitous smoking and constantly replenished glasses of tea, sweet wine and scotch, contributed to early cardiac arrest for so many Radovs. For reluctant young eaters, even in the 1950s, that food was accompanied by the insistent and constant injunction: "Eat everything on your plate, because people are starving in Europe." Europe clearly meant Russia, but the cause and effect between our gluttony and others' starvation remains murky.

Once here, Russia was almost never mentioned. Pogroms were forgotten and family life in America, abandoning the riff of the Russian language and *shtetl* fears, became the norm. Almost to a person, everyone born here, or young when they came, somehow, despite the Depression, made it through college, and went off to start various new businesses and practice professions, from Brooklyn and Boston to Erie, Detroit and Chicago, to Los Angeles, San Diego and Portland.

That said, the arrival of most of the family in 1922 was filled with drama: the Russian Revolution closing the borders and stopping the mail, a letter managing to get out, a ruse to gain access to rail passage, smuggled family negotiating to bribe officials, surreptitious water crossings at nights to escape the Soviet regime, ending in a long trudge only to be marooned in Bucharest. The matter began with a lone letter and single conversation. Barney B. Radov, then a nine year old boy in America, describes what happened in the kitchen between his father, Joe or Zusie, and his mother, Sarah or Cirka, when his never-seen uncle's letter from Russia arrived.



Morris and Luba Radov – 1922

Morris wrote, "If you ever want to see us alive, you can only do it now when I am in a position to gather the family together." My father read the letter to my mother. He said, "What do you think?" She said to him, "What do you mean, what do I think? It's your family. It's your father, your mother, your brothers, your sisters. Go. Go."

Sarah (Cirka) Radov
(1925)



Barney B. Radov
(1925)



Joseph (Zusie) Radov
(1925)



This, then, is a fragment of the story of those in the arrival picture (see, 1922 Family Picture A1-2), a photograph that gave basic black new meaning in New York. They and those who had arrived earlier worked incredible hours, but spent virtually every free moment with family and greater family, enjoying that family, if also trying to improve, chastise, impress and educate individually recalcitrant family members. Other of their activities gave rise to the greater mailing list at the end of these pages.

* * * * *

The value of this project might not appear obvious. We live in an era diffuse, rootless and self-absorbed, bereft of extended family and shorn of history. To a great extent, this is an age we find fulfilling, believing electronic entertainment and personal attainment goals at once satisfactory and sufficient. Extended family history has an anachronistic feel, particularly a family collected from Russian shtetls and Orthodox *shuls*, Yiddish peddlers who made their way without encountering the important or attaining fame and fortune. Moreover, the family has scattered and forgotten, perhaps with a sigh of relief, the original ties that bind.



Rosh Hashanah greeting card from Russian Jews to their American relatives, with recognition of the open invitation to immigrate.

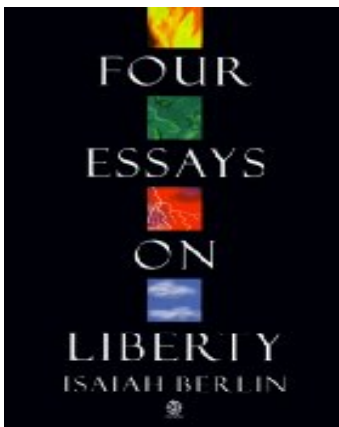
Such a rejection of our past is too quick, too facile. This history shaped who we are because we are the product of such history. Not only location, station and actual memories are involved, there is a more subtle transmission of character, belief, personality and humor. We (regretfully or celebratorily) turn into our parents, as they turned into theirs. The old and traditional culture may seem alien, even paradoxical, but it was borne of deeper beliefs and survival instincts necessary then, and not to be entirely discounted now. The family was entrepreneurial, if not always successfully, and committed to large dinners and card-playing, if not always prudently, ever contemplating the larger meaning of existence, but not always in terms of traditional Judaism, and eternally willing to find humor and engage in ridicule about themselves and others, if not always without historic pain.

We should not, however, be ready to push aside the Russian-Jewish culture that once was ours. Jews settled in Russia in late Roman times, and certainly, by 800-900 A.D., were thriving in the Kiev area. Those 1200 years are very much in our bones and in our souls. Moreover, it is part of a legacy unsurpassed (if equaled in miniature elsewhere in Eastern and Central Europe by the Ashkenazi community) in achievement throughout recorded history. Despite poverty, adversity, pogroms, church and state sponsored hatred and discrimination, what the Russian Jews accomplished is both startling and overwhelming. In the last 100 years, that record — by those in Russia, those who left Russia and those who were children of Russian Jews — includes a dazzling assembly of Nobel Prize winners, authors, artists, statesmen and scientists no other indigenous minority has come close to possessing.

The list of luminaries is almost endless, and growing. For example, Irving Berlin, Richard Rodgers, Aaron Copeland and George Gershwin reinvented American music, while Ayn Rand, Lionel Trilling, Isaiah Berlin and Robert Nozick (in different ways) reconfigured Western thought.



Israel Isidore Baline's (of Tyumen Russia), Irving Berlin's, *God Bless America* sung at Pentagon Memorial Dedication, September 11, 2008.



Isaiah Berlin's book on liberty and his plaque in Riga, likely the only such official honor of a Jewish thinker in the former Russian Empire.



Isaiah Berlin, one of the leading liberal theorists of the 20th Century, emigrated from Russia as a child. On a personal note, when I entered Oxford, he had long been the chair of political philosophy. His take on the Russian passage west was typically Jewish.

He would ask American Jews who wandered into his view, typically graduate students, why it was that the American Jews were so rich and famous, the British Jews so poor and obscure, when all began on the same ships leaving Europe. The student stumped, Berlin would answer his own question. "Simple. The ship would take supplies and patrons in Southampton, England, but the Captain, to make room for new passengers, would announce it was New York." Then, laughing, Berlin would say, "The dumb ones, like us, believed him and got off".

In a different vein, Sholem Aleichem (creator of Tevya), Boris Pasternak and Saul Bellow recast the modern narrative, interspersing chaotic inner monologue with social events to create new terms for the 20th Century novel, the last two picking up Nobels along the way. Sholem Aleichem captured the outlook of those in the Russian *shtetl* when he wrote: *Life is a dream for the wise, a game for the fool, a comedy for the rich, a tragedy for the poor.*

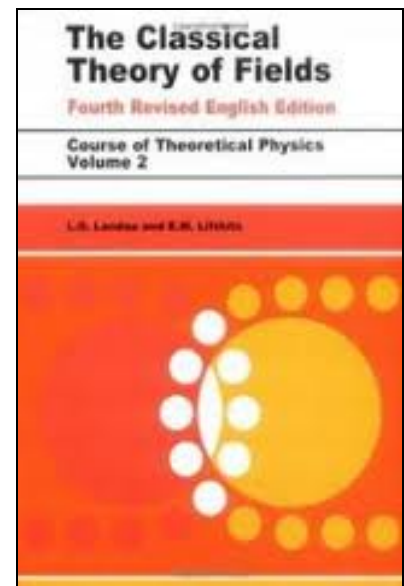


Boris Pasternak's First Russian Edition of *Dr. Zhivago*



1959 Soviet Union Postage Stamp in Honor of Sholem Aleichem's Centennial

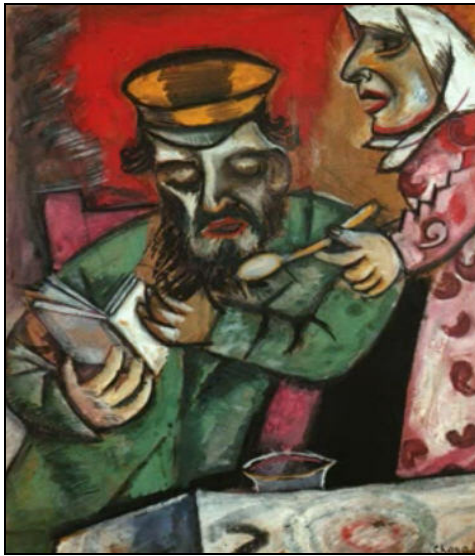
Working in theoretical physics were Lev Landau and Ilya Frank, who each (again in very different contents) won the Nobel. Three years ago, during an hour long interview for Azerbaijan television, AzTV, I mentioned that Lev Landau, one of the great scientists of the 20th Century, was from Baku, Azerbaijan's capital now, Russian once – and might well be the best known Azerbaijani. Receiving doctorates in both mathematics and physics at 19 – the discoverer of the density matrix in quantum mechanics, the Ginsburg-Landau Theory of Superconductivity, the Landau Damping in plasma physics and almost all the basic math of super fluidity – and the Nobel Prize, Landau is an easy person to claim as your own. Nevertheless, the reply was rejection. "Landau was Jewish, not Azerbaijani." I suggested that, at least in the U.S., Pres. Kennedy could be both Catholic and Irish, yet still be American. Not true, apparently, in Baku, even on the state television network. This attitude matched one I saw 14 years earlier when living in Volgograd. I learned there that Russians read Russian writers, and thus no one buys *Dr. Zhivago* by Boris Pasternak, as Pasternak was not Russian (despite living there except for 5 years during college), but a Jew. All of this is the merest shadow of the attitude that permeated family life 100 years earlier.



Later edition of Landau's the *Classical Theory of Fields*

The tradition of educating Jewish women in Russia, as Morris J. Radov discusses, was, if not always strong, nevertheless, episodically evident. The result includes Golda Meir, Debbie Wasserman Schultz, Annie Lebovitz, and Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Elena Kagan. In a different arena, Marc Chagall reshaped modern art, merging Cubist *shtetl*

images with spectacular colors of Russian peasant life. He described that life, as his father lived it, in his *Autobiography*.



Chagall's Parents

Day after day, winter and summer, at six o'clock in the morning, my father got up and went to the synagogue. There he said the usual prayers for some dead man or the other. On his return he made ready the samovar, drank some tea and went to work. Hellish work, the work of a galley-slave. Why try to hide it? How tell about it? No word will ever ease my father's lot. . . There was always plenty of butter and cheese on our table. Buttered bread, like an eternal symbol, was never out of my childish hands.

This list doesn't even mention Menachem Begin, Bob Dylan, Leonard Bernstein, Chaim Weizmann, Jascha Heifetz, Jonas Salk, Menachem Mendel Schneerman, Joseph Brodsky, Anna Pavlova, Joseph Heller, Milton Friedman, Isaac Asimov, Gabrielle Giffords, Richard Feynman, Charles Schumer, Jerome Robbins, virtually every world-class chess master, a high percentage of the renown mathematicians (including a number of Fields Medalists), many of Hollywood's producers and directors (Sam Goldwyn, Jack Warner, Mel Brooks and Steven Spielberg), countless actors and actresses (Winona Ryder, Robert Downey Jr., Alan Arkin, Natalie Portman, Harrison Ford, Seth Green, Sarah Jessica Parker, Peter Coyote, Gwyneth Paltrow), and dozens of Nobel Prize winners. To put it in Yiddish terms, there were worse places to be from.



Fields Prize, given once every 4 years, recently refused by the Russian – Jewish mathematician Grigori Perelman, without comment. Likely the greatest mathematician of our age, Perelman later rejected the Millennium Prize on the grounds he didn't deserve it.

It might immodestly be added that the list is undoubtedly longer. Unlike the Radovs, many American Jews today have little idea of not only family history, but even family location. History has been erased. As Susan Sontag, writer, critic and feminist, admitted:

I once asked my father's mother, who died when I was seven, where she came from. She said 'Europe'... And so to this day, I don't know from what country my paternal grandparents came.

The particular immigrant experience of moving from Russian *shtetl* to American city is increasingly lost, the fragment of fading memory. Memory routinely slides from finely drawn to stereo-typed caricature and here, not unnaturally, has been overwhelmed by the brutality of the Holocaust. That said, no single story or small set of stories of the Russians and their children born in America captures all of this. They can only scratch the surface. Hence, the goal to set out a number of conversations – with their mosaic of selflessness and self-consumption, of religious devotion and devotion to card-playing, of every sacrifice for family and family squabbles. Often, though, to an extent we hardly consciously understand, this heritage affects, even shapes, us daily. As Faulkner said, “The past is never dead. It’s not even past.”

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01.08.00 г. № 2648

На № _____ от _____ Invitation.

Yaroslav-the-Wise Novgorod State University has the pleasure to invite
the following citizens of the USA:

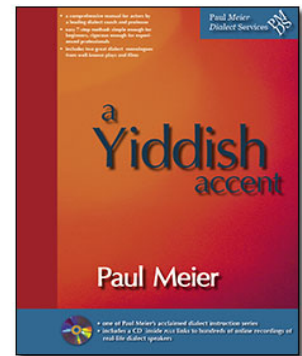
Joel Louis Levin
DOB August 22, 1951
Passport N 1549
Mary Jane Levin
DOB December 19, 1959
Passport N 1571
Ava Victoria Levin
DOB July 20, 1998
Passport N 0871

to visit Veliky Novgorod (Russia) from September 6 through October
10, 2000 with the purpose of reading lectures according to "Partnership for
Freedom" project at the Faculty of Law, Humanities Institute of NovSU.

 President of NovSU
Anatoly I. Gavrilov

Once chased out, Radoy descendants have (perhaps begrudgingly) finally been invited back to Russia, even a 2 year old. The invitation from Yaroslav-the-Wise Novgorod State University is ironic, as Yaroslav was not only the Grand Prince of Novgorod, but also of Kiev. Ruling Kiev from 1019 to 1054, he was responsible for its Golden Age, for its peaceful enlightenment, and for *Russkaya Pradva* (Russian Justice or Truth), the law code in operation when Russia had a rule of law. It is difficult to find a good moment after Yaroslav-the-Wise left the scene, certainly not any during the reign of his successor, (and murderer), Svyatopolk the Accursed.

In that spirit, let me give two of my own, personal snapshots of this generation, or at least my take on it. First my take: when I was very young and trying to make sense of the world, I was in the company of family members regularly, family with varying degrees of Ukrainian-Yiddish (different than the harsher intonations of my Litvak father's side) accents. The older the relative, the harder the accent. To my early way of seeing things, and ignorant of Russian immigration complexities, a truth struck me: the older you got, the more likely you took on a Yiddish accent. I assumed I might have a small one in my 20s, and by retirement, be almost incomprehensible. The analysis of a young Radov empiricist.



A Yiddish Accent, by Paul Meier, for those lacking an *Ashkenazi* immigrant legacy

Second, my non-Radov grandfather, Julius Levin, was born in Lithuania of generations of impoverished Rabbis, but sent to America, alone, at 13, to join cousins as a peddler in the clothing (*schmata*) business. His life revolved around family, synagogue and work, with little time for much else and of modest means always. Special for him, always, despite working on the road for days at a time, were Jewish holidays, birthdays and *Shabbat*. Yet there was one additional, special day: January 2. That day, at 8:30 in the morning, regardless of how cold the temperature or deep the snow, would find him at the Old Customs House, waiting for the doors to open. Then, cash in hand, Julius performed a task of honor, thanks and pleasure, but not to his mind a duty: he went up the stairs to pay the United States Government – a U.S. which took him in from the horrors of Russian life – pay it back with his taxes at the earliest moment he could possibly do so. This simple act represented the silent, but unmistakable, recognition of that generation of the profound and beneficial changes for their safety, freedom and very existence.

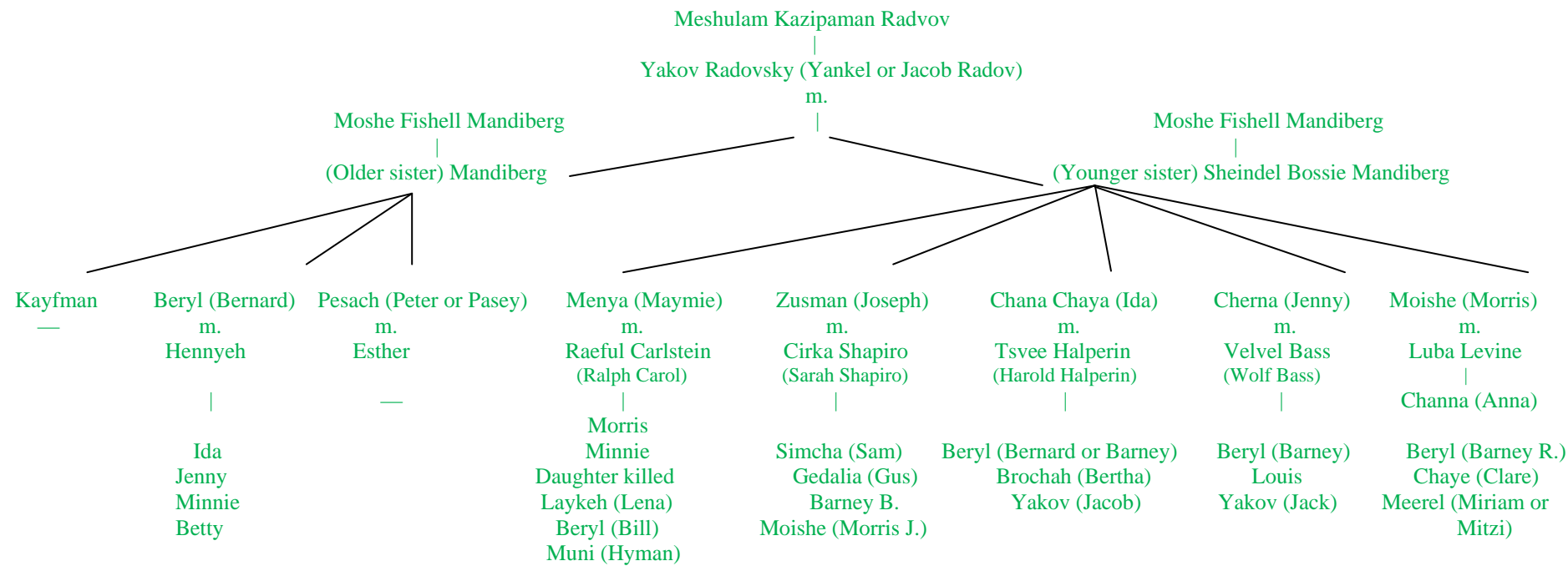


Old Customs House in Erie, PA

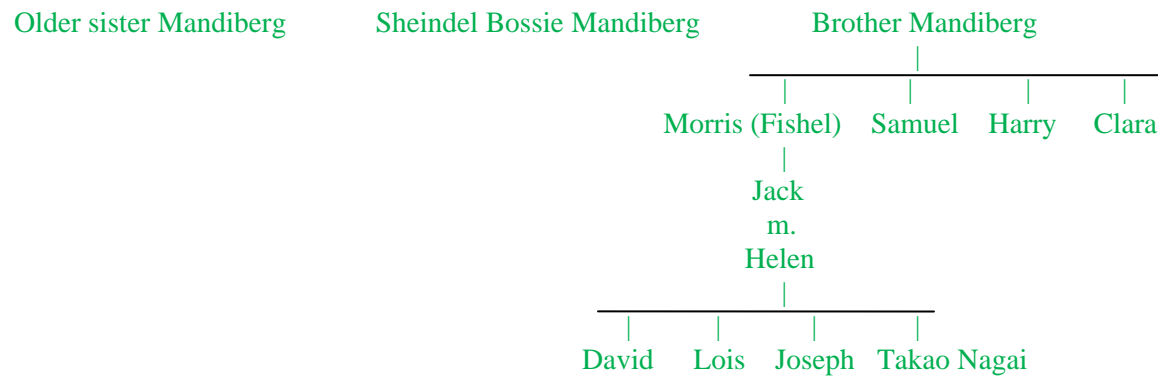
The senses of community, belonging, tradition and origin are strong ones. In understanding who we are, it matters who our family is, who they were, and what they went through. This is not an invitation to tribalism, an exclusive and excluding identity by one group to the detriment of others. It is rather an opportunity to cast the net with sufficient vigor to capture our own past. We can draw strength, solace and comfort from our family – their struggles, lives, losses, weaknesses, travel, celebrations and triumphs – and make use of that experience in our own lives. That said, some joy, *naches*, even laughter, *lakhn*, might be in order. For the Russians who made the odyssey to America, though, we can only agree with Albany in *King Lear*:

*The oldest hath borne most: we that are young
Shall never see so much, nor live so long.*

The Early Family Tree
 Yakov Radovsky (Yankel or Jacob Radov) 1844-1924
 Sheindel Bossie Mandiberg Radov 1853-1936

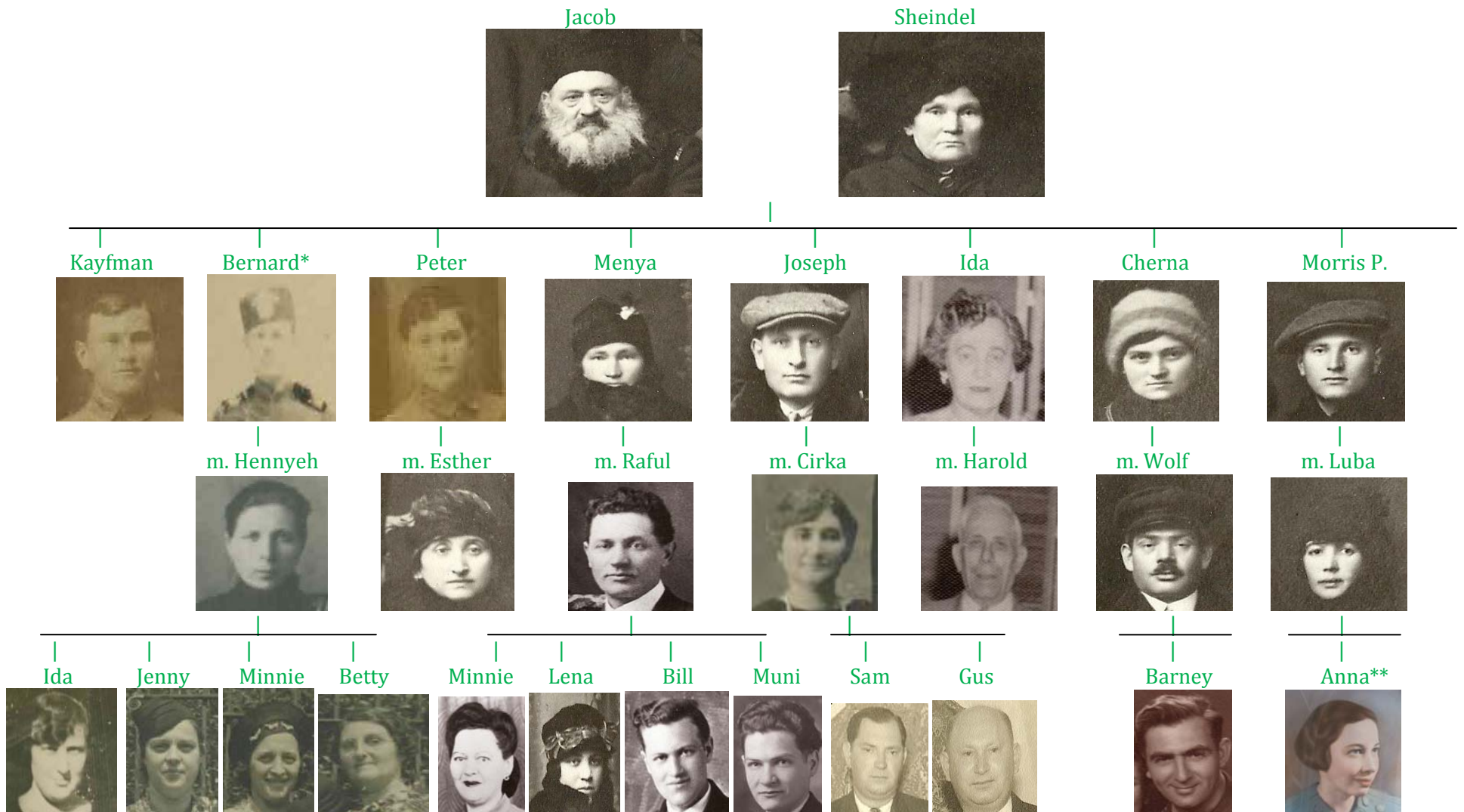


Mandibergs



THE RUSSIANS

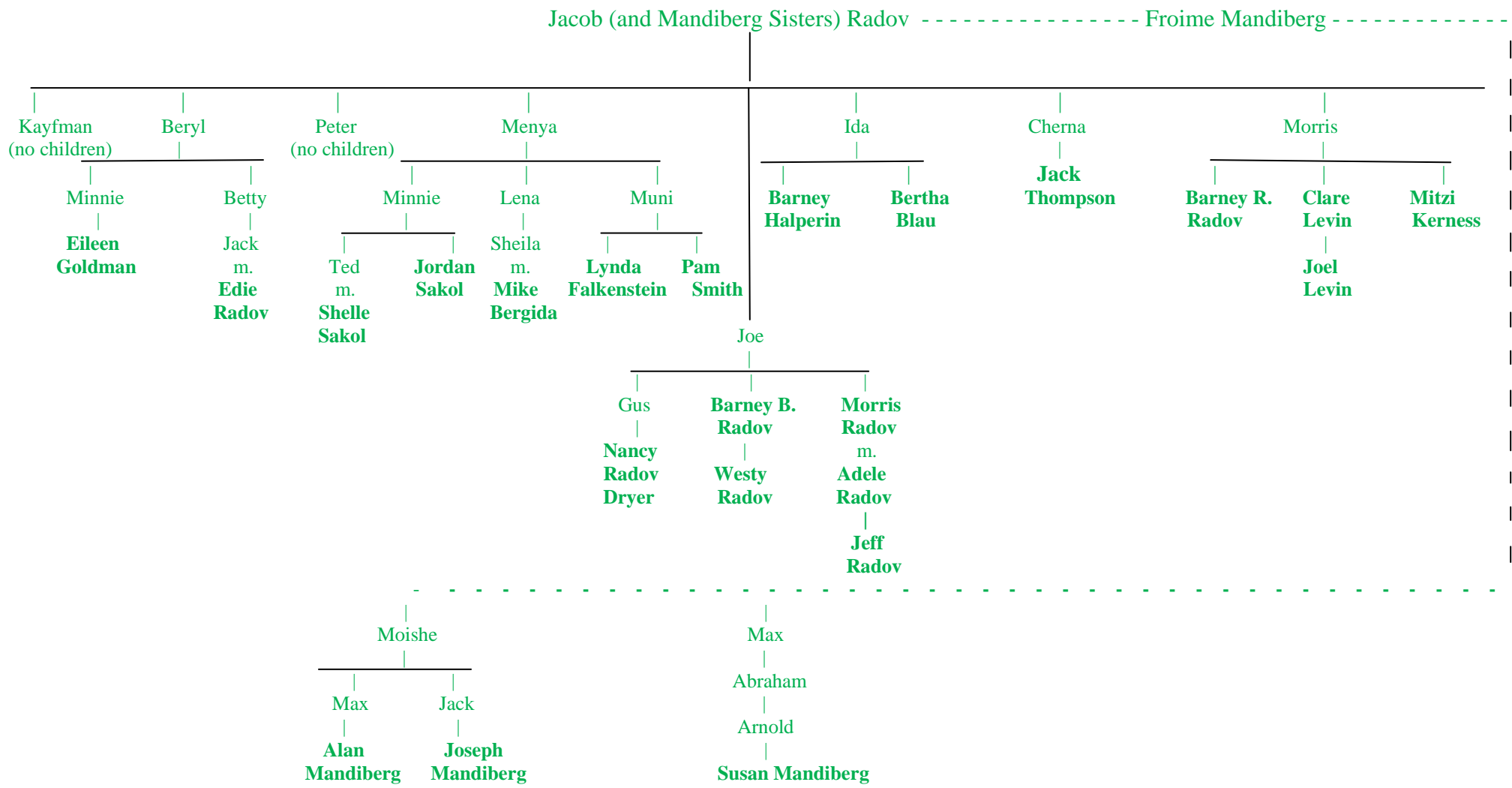
(28 Radovs not born in America)



*Pictured in superimposed uniform (not his). He alone in this group never left Russia.

**Born at sea on the R.M.S. Olympic.

Family Tree of Conversation Participants Marked in **Bold Letters** (Incomplete Family Tree)



PARTICIPANTS PICTURED



Bertha Blau



Barney R. Radov



Betty Radov



Jack Bass Thompson



Clare Radov Levin



Joel Levin



Barney B. Radov



Eileen Cohen Goldman



Mitzi Radov Kerness



Morris J. Radov



Adele Radov



Jeff Radov



Joseph Mandiberg



Lynda Carl Falkenstein



Pam Carl Smith



Wendy Bass Devaris

Radov Conversations, Spring and Fall 2011



Barbara Bass



Edie Radov



Jordan Sakol



Alan Kreiss



Susan Mandiberg



Shelle Sakol Radin



Nancy Radov Dryer



Marci Radov Rogers



Paul Rogers



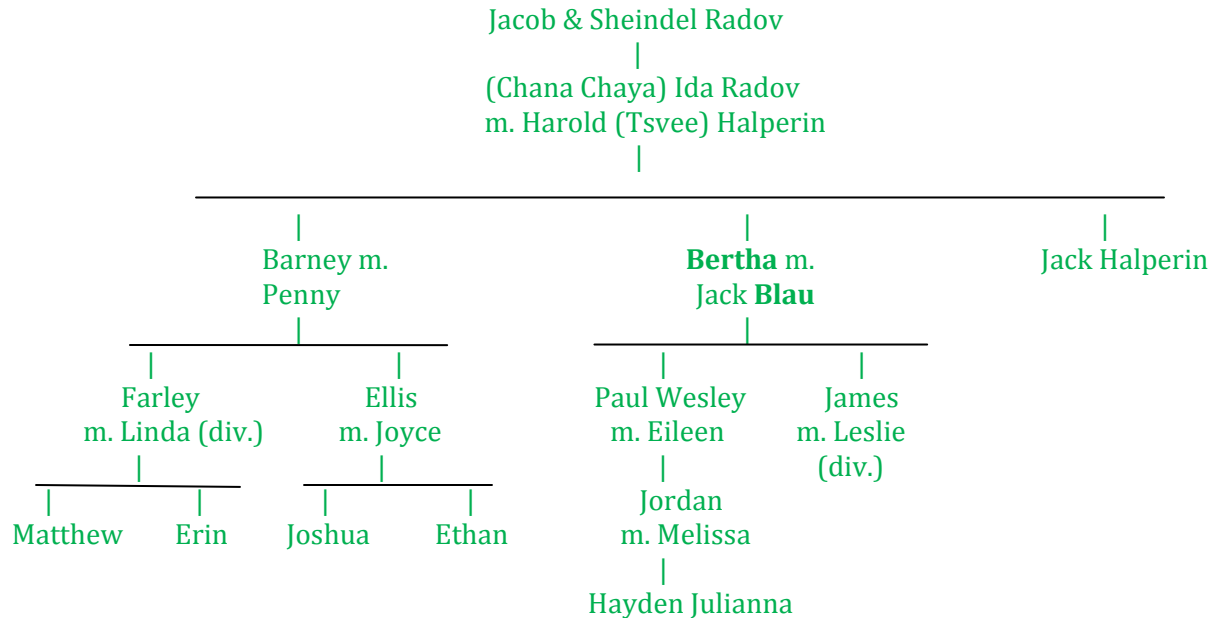
Westy Radov



Barney Halperin

Missing are Michael Bergida and Alan Mandiberg.

BERTHA HALPERIN BLAU

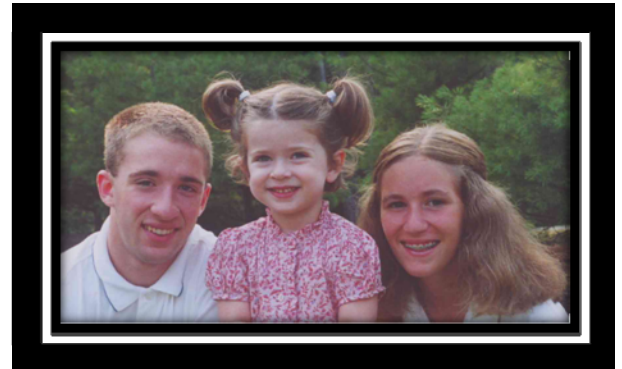


Bertha Blau; Conversation with Joel Levin – Tuesday, May 21, 2011

J: I was talking to Barney [R.] Radov [b. 1923] about the family. My kids have been asking about some of the family history. He said to call your brother [Barney Halperin, b. 1916]. I called your brother and he said to call you.

B: That is good news anyway.

J: My kids are getting older and they don't know, nor do I, very much of what happened when the family first came over from Russia. Barney told me a couple things, but then he kept saying I don't know – I mean Barney R. Radov.



Reid, Ava, Jenny Levin - 2003

B: Barney B. [Radov, 1913-2001] was supposed to have left something written for the Center [*Brith Sholom* in Erie], all about some of the family. Some I don't know, but I will try to fill you in with what I know. First of all, they had a picture made when they came over in 1922. Do you have that picture?

J: I have that picture. [1922 Family Picture, A1-2].



Cirka and Joe Radov - 1925

B: You have that – OK. Your grandmother and your grandfather and Uncle Joe and my mother and his wife Cirka [Sarah Radov, 1880-1962] and Sam. Do you remember Sam Radov [1904-1982], Uncle Joe's [Radov, 1884-1957] oldest son?.

J: Sure. Jackie's [Jack Bernard Radov, 1931-2007] father.

B: Jackie's father, mother and my mother came together in 1911.

J: So let me go back. Some of the family came over earlier and then some came over later, in the 1920s.

B: That's right.

J: Your mother was Ida [Chana Chaya Halperin, 1894-1963]?

B: My mother was Ida – right.

J: Did she come over with Joe?



Ida (Chana Chaya) Halperin

B: Not initially.

J: So Joe came over first and then Ida?



Jews at Ellis Island arriving steerage

B: As far as I know, Joe made three trips, [1908, 1911, 1922]. The first one, he was either alone or I don't with know who else. I think there's a sister, Menya and I think her husband came with him. I don't know who came first – but Joe was here already once. Then, in 1911, he went back to Russia and brought his family and my mother. [See A34-52 for Ida's passport with translation]. In those days, they watched very carefully – there was an epidemic of eye infections and, Sam Radov, Jackie's father, was 6 years old and Gus [Radov] was 4 years old and they were afraid the reason Uncle Joe took my mother, not because of favorites, but because she was old enough to care for Gus in case *Tanta* Cirka was held up in Ellis Island because of his eyes. He had glaucoma. So that's why they took my mother along with her. Does that make sense?

J: Who had glaucoma?

B: Well, I don't what they called it. I know he had a serious eye infection.

J: Who did?

B: And that's why my mother came along, to take care of Sam and to take care of Gus in case *Tanta* Cirka was not allowed in the country for awhile until Sam was examined thoroughly. That's how my mother came. It was Uncle Joe's second trip. The third trip was what you see on the picture.

J: Who are the three kids in the picture?

B: Where are they situated? Can you hold on for just a minute? My scrapbook is right handy. OK. The one that's sitting on the left hand, the little boy about 10 years old maybe.

J: Yes.

B: That was *Tanta* Menya's son. [*Tanta* was the Yiddish term for aunt].

J: Menya Carl?

B: Carl is their last name and sometimes it's Carol and I'm still pondering the cemetery – there is a Carlstein – whether that belonged to them, maybe that was part of the name too. [The cemetery is CBS in Erie, see A99-107]. But that's part of the name Carl [of the picture]. Left hand side was his son. His name was Hyman. Hyman Carl. He hated the name Hyman. His Jewish name was Muni and then when Paul Muni got to be so big with his acting, the word was he took the name Muni and went through his life with his name, Muni Carl. His real name was Hyman.



Menya and Raful Carol - 1930

J: That's the father of the boy or that's the boy?

B: That's the boy, the 10 year old boy.



Muni Carl

J: So that's Muni. [Muni was Carl, the rest of the family, generally but not always, was Carol, occasionally Carrol].

B: Muni. We called him Muni. He changed it in English to Muni.

J: And his mother's name was?

B: Menya. I think it's Maymie on the tombstone. But in Jewish [Yiddish], they called her Menya.

J: Who was her husband?

B: Raful Carol. It's funny that your generation or your child's generation is getting so inquisitive about this family that Carl's daughter, the old man, Muni's daughter [Pam Smith] called me last week...last month...last year and has been keeping in touch. She wants to get as much as a history on her father as possible. It's funny that the kids want to know about their heritage, so I filled him in too. My brother answered – I would know better than he was. OK.

J: Who is the second boy?

B: He's Muni's older brother, Bill. Another Barney, but he didn't want to take the name Barney anymore. His real name was Barney. It's Bill. He's the one who started with the Carol.

J: Who is the other boy on the right?

B: That was Aunt Jenny's [Cherna] boy.
Cherna's boy, Barney Bass. You should
have known Barney's dad he visited in Erie.
You should have known him by then.

J: Yes.

B: Well, that's who those three people are.



Cherna and Barney Thompson

J: What do you know about how the family lived in Russia?

B: How they lived? They were poor.

J: Do you know where they lived?

B: They used to say they lived close to Kiev.

J: But Westy Radov said that Barney B. [Radov] said they
lived in a place called Makarov. [See Makarov and Babi
Yar, A3-6].



Westy Radov



Yekaterinoslav - Dnepropetrovsk Synagogue

B: Makarov. That comes to mind. But where
they really lived may be a closer city and I'll
tell you where my mother always said
there was a small village, E-H-K-R-I-S-T-I-L-
N-O-F-F.

J: Ehkristilnov. So that's the village where you
think everybody started? [The city of
Ekaterinoslav is also known as
Yekaterinoslav, and was the name of the
town Morris J. Radov also had always heard.
It became absorbed into modern
Dnipropetrovsk. See Yekaterinoslav and
Ekaterinoslav, A81-85].

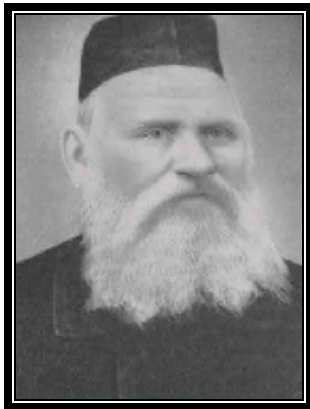


1900 Kiev

- B: Where we're from. That's what my mother always said. And they always spoke about Kiev and Makarov. They were close by. Kiev, of course, was bigger.
- J: What did the family do there?
- B: My grandfather was what you would call the Clerk of Courts. Our handwritings are all derived from him. We all have good handwriting. And he had a beautiful handwriting too. Of course, my brother, and all of us.

J: When you say your grandfather, what was his name?

B: Radov. Grandfather Yankel. Jacob [or Yakov] Radov. [On his grave, in Erie, he is the son of Meshulam Kazipaman (last name is not usually included) A106]. This is only the Radov clan.



Jacob Radov

- J: Jacob Radov, Yankel Radov [1844-1924] was the Clerk of Courts. And he was married twice, right?
- B: Right. I don't have anything. I don't know what his first wife's name was. She was a sister to Shanabossey, our grandmother. [Sheindel Bossie Mandiberg Radov, 1853-1936, listed on her grave in Erie as daughter of Moshe Fishell (last name not usually included)]. My grandmother.
- J: Right. So that part of the family came to the United States separately?

B: No. Just my mother. Those on the picture, by the second wife [except for Peter, by the first wife and Peter's wife, Esther] came in 1922.

J: Was there other family by the first wife?

B: Sure. The Bostonians. Of course you know, Yankel, the father. The mother's name I don't know. But from that marriage was Barney Radovsky. He was married. He was one of the older ones and he was married in Russia yet. And that's where he died young and left the woman with four children and that's why his name was

Barney and that's why we have six Barneys in the family. Because when later on, I mean they had no one to name him with, the closest was an uncle or a cousin.

J: Do you know the family in Boston?

B: Yes. But they don't know any more. They know as much as whatever I told them because they too were interested for awhile for knowing everybody. That's how, years ago, we brought them all together.

J: So what are their names?

B: They were Radov. They, too, were Radovskys.

J: But what are they now?

B: Radov, of course! The father was Barney Radovsky [Beryl or Bernard] and the mother's name – I think she told me it was Hanna. And to them were born four girls.



Beryl and Hennyeh Radov (uniform is superimposed)

J: Do you know their names?



Betty Radov – 1940s

B: Well, the oldest one was – that was his mother – I'll come back. The second one... I have to think a minute with the names here. Betty was one of them that Sam Radov was married to. There were four of them. [Ida, Jenny, Minnie and Betty].

J: Joe's son married his cousin?

B: Yes. With a half cousin. Yes.

J: So Betty Radov married Sam Radov?

B: Our Sam. Uncle Joe's Sam.

J: Was married to Betty Radovsky?



Sam Radov – 1940s

B: Right. There were always Radovskys and Radovs – that's right.

J: And their son was Jackie?

B: And their son is Jackie! She [Betty] was one of the younger girls.

J: And they are still in Boston?



Jackie Radov

B: They're up in Boston. Sandy's mother was I think the second youngest, because I remember her writing it. Sandy and his sister were the ones who came over here – Mitzi had a big get together with them. I didn't know any of them. When Betty Radov died, Sam's wife, she was buried in Florida, because she was divorced from Sam and she lived the last years with her husband here. So, I felt I was the only one. It's terrible not to have any of her family represented, so I went down there and I met Sandy there, Sandy Cohen, and he says: did you know the family? How are you related? I told him who I was. He took a big pad of paper and a pencil and he started to write. So what he knows he got from me.

J: Let's go back to Russia. Jacob was the Clerk of Courts – what were the other people doing while they still lived in Russia?

B: I don't know. They were all poor farmers, I guess. I think Jenny's husband, Barney Bass' father, I think was a jewelry man.

J: When they came over here did they speak any English?

B: No. They spoke Russian and Yiddish. Mostly Yiddish.

J: My grandfather seemed to speak a number of Eastern European languages.

B: Eastern Europeans pick up languages very easily. Americans don't, but Europeans pick up them up. Anybody from Europe always knows a good 4 or 5 different languages, from the Slavic area.

J: My grandfather, Morris [P. Radov], knew quite a few languages. Barney B. said that he knew some Polish. He seemed to know these languages.



Academy High School in Erie

B: My beautician was from Czechoslovakia. She just came back from there. What a beautiful city that Prague was, she said. She too could speak the Russian language. They're all intertwined. It's like German. You know how many Jewish kids that took German courses at Academy [High School]. They are proud of it because they knew Yiddish.

J: Right.

B: They faked their way through. (Laughing).

J: When people came here, how did they make a living when they first got here?

B: Peddling, I guess. They bought a truck and peddled. [See Joseph Radov with Huckster, A73-74].

J: They did some bootlegging.

B: Yes, they were peddlers. Whatever it was they were peddling – junk mostly.

J: So all of the Radovs got out of Russia?

B: All but one.

J: Who didn't get out?

B: The secret one. Grandpa's oldest son. The oldest of Yankel Radov.

J: And why didn't he get out?

B: He was the one unspoken of. No. He joined the Catholic religion and became a priest.

J: Became a priest? I didn't know that. I had thought he married somebody not Jewish.



Bertha Blau - 1955



Jack Blau

B: Nobody knows! Very few knew. The only one who knew anybody and everybody to the last minute detail, and he just died a couple years ago, was my cousin Barney Bass. Because his mother, whether it was about the family history, certain pasts, whether it is about sex, it's about anything, when he had a question, he went to his mother, Jenny, and no matter what she was doing, if she was frying eggs, she'd let them fry, but she sat down on the couch and told him step by step what it meant, never kept anything from him. My mother used to tell me, "You don't have to know those things." OK. Said nobody talked about that. That was a dirty thing. But he knew everything, and he was the one who really briefed us.

J: So, the one unspoken of, what was his name?

B: I don't know. Maybe I did know and forgot. I don't know. I'll have to look back on my cards that I have in the history of them to see. I know I don't have it and I know the grandmother's name I didn't know either – the first wife's name. I just called her the first wife. That's all. I didn't have her name.

J: The first wife was the sister of the second wife right?



Barney R. Radov

B: Right.

J: I have the picture right after they arrived. That's shot in New York right?

B: I think so.

J: Because Barney [R.] Radov thought it might have been shot in Europe. He wasn't sure.

B: The one with your grandmother and grandfather, I think, I would say was shot in Europe because I think your grandmother's got something on her head. I don't think she would have taken an American picture.

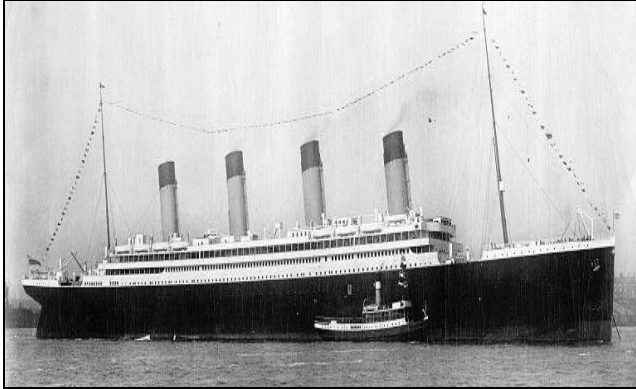
J: But the one we just talked about with the three boys in the picture, that was shot, you think, in New York or in Russia?

B: Where it was shot? Oh, it wasn't shot in Europe. They were in a hurry to get out. I don't think it was shot in Europe. [They were in a hurry to get out of Russia, but mired in Bucharest for 3 months. See A93-98]. Maybe someplace in route, I don't know.

J: Anna [Radov, 1922-1936] was born by the time they got to New York. She was born on ship.

B: That's what they said.

J: I've got the ship's log. [See Family Ship Manifest, A7-20]. I have the ship manifest which shows she was born before she got to New York.



R.M.S. Olympic

B: She was born on the ship, wasn't she?

J: Yes, on the ship. [See Cherbourg & The R.M.S. Olympic, A77-80]. That's so, but she's not in the picture. Maybe she wasn't born yet, because they took it in Europe. That's what Barney R. thinks.

B: That was the question to me all the time. I questioned that, but, they said we don't know. Where was Anna when this picture was taken – if she was born here. She was not born in America.

J: Right. She was born at sea. So if this picture doesn't have her, maybe this was taken in Europe. The only other reason I think so is that the carpet looks very European. It doesn't look like America.



Anna Radov - 1926

B: Right.

J: I've been in Eastern Europe. That's still how the carpets are: these big, flowery, floral, huge patterns. It doesn't look like New York, where there would have been a 1920s New York picture. It doesn't look like that to me. But I don't know.

B: No. I don't know either. I can't tell you. As I said, I wasn't smart enough when I was younger, when my parents were living, to find out.

J: My mother says that her parents refused to talk about Russia, Morris and Luba wouldn't tell the kids about Russia.

B: He didn't tell anything about Russia? Well look at how young he was in that picture then. He was young.

J: Luba [Radov, 1902-1984] was 19 in this picture, I think.

B: I think he and Bill Carol were the same age. There were a couple people that are not identified, we don't know who they are. If they were just friends, I don't know if they had different passports, I don't know how they got across. And I don't know who is the man or the boy next to *Tanta* Manya there. I don't know who that one was.



Bill (Beryl) Carol - 1930

J: So which one is she?

B: On the top. Top row, second from the left.

J: I see the boy with the cap.



CBS Cemetery

B: The boy with the cap. On the tombstone it says he was just 18 years old and the name on the tombstone, is Carlstein – and that's what makes me believe that that was he. Otherwise, I wouldn't know who that is. [In fact, the grave is for Morris Carlstein, 1897-1915, gone before the picture. The grave lists Morris' father as Raful, thus, he is the oldest son of Raful and Menya Carol].

J: You said one of the Carols.

B: I think yes, it was *Tanta* Manya's son. She had several children. He was one of them and Minnie in Chicago and Lena in Erie, they had a big family then. That's what makes me believe that that who we called Carlstein.

J: Did anybody write any of this history down anywhere?

B: I did, but a little too late in life.

J: Could you send it to me?

B: I'm not good at coordinating. I wanted to take up genealogy at one time to put them in the right places, but I can give it to you family by family if you want. [See Family Tree from Bertha Halperin Blau, A21-28].

J: Did you write it down somewhere where I could have it typed up and send it back to you?

B: You don't have to send it back to me. I always have a copy when I send anything out. You should know that. I can give you the names of the children and so on, by family, who they were and so on and their children. The best I could do.

J: Do you have email?

B: No. I don't even have a computer. How do you like that? I'd never get out of the house then. I don't have time for it. I'd like to learn.



Clare Radov Levin

J: I'll give you my address.

B: I'm almost 93 years old, what do you want? How's your mother [Clare Levin, b. 1929] doing?

J: Fine. She has a friend, Gil Cranberg. She's going out on dates.

B: Oh really?

J: He's the retired newspaper editor of the *Des Moines Register*.

B: OK. That's nice.

J: So, how you doing?



B: I was widowed 28 years. I had a mutual friend here, a friend, your mother and father met him. They thought he was nice. Yes, a handsome man, but I never, no, no, I never looked. Some retired lawyer here was after me and he says all I ask is today, tomorrow dinner. That's all.

Conversation with Bertha Blau - Friday - June 10, 2011

B: Hello. It's Bertha.



Bertha Blau - 1963

J: Hi, it's Joel. How are you?

B: I just walked in. I will tell you I did not have a good day after I talked to you. My brother went into cardiac arrest.

J: Oh no.

B: I have not had a chance to get any work done on it. I have just been going to the hospital, I just came home and got your message. You just called about 5 minutes ago, I think.

J: How is Barney [Halperin]? How is he?

B: He's coming along. They let him out of the hospital and all he can do is rest now. They thought it was pneumonia. It just happened so fast. He just needs a lot of rest, that's all.

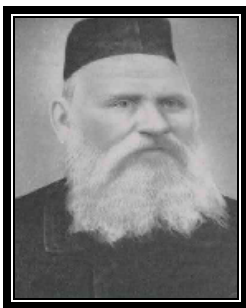
J: I'm sorry.

B: I should have called, but every time I come home so late, I just want to plop into bed. So if you can bear with me, I have all the stuff Joel, but if there is anything you want to add or some questions.

J: Yes, I do have some questions. Yes, from just what you said before. So, I do want the stuff, but I may ask it again. First of all, on your grandparents, on my great grandparents, did you know your grandfather at all?

B: I was a little girl. I was 4 years old when he came here, but I remember him, I remember when he died.

J: What was he like?



Jacob Radov



Barney Halperin

B: My brother looked just like him.

J: Like Barney with a beard?

B: Barney never had a beard, but if he did have. I have a picture on the tombstone in the cemetery so take off the beard, he would look just like my brother.

- J: What was he like though? What did he do all day?
- B: I think he was 82 or 84 when he came to this country.
- J: What was he like as a person though? What did he do all day?
- B: I don't know. He must have lived with my Uncle Joe, Zusie, and he was only here two years in America. I don't know. I don't think he did much of anything, except my Uncle Joe's house was congregated with anybody and everybody who came. They would be there everyday, single and married. There was a house full all the time.
- J: Was that on 31st Street?
- B: On 31st Street, 132. Yes.
- J: And my grandfather [Morris P. Radov, also called M.P.] lived next door, right?
- B: When I knew M.P., he was on 24th Street. He moved to 31st about maybe a year before Anna died. He lived on the one hundred block on 24th Street as far as I know, between French and Holland. It was a two-family house.
- J: And your grandmother. What was her name, Sheindel?
- B: No, it was Sheindel [pronouncing it Shayndell] Bossie.



Harold Halperin

- J: What did you call her?
- B: Sheindel Bossie. And her maiden name was Mandiberg. Some of them [the Mandibergs] spelled it with an, a, arg. That's the way I know them to spell it.
- J: Do you know any of her other relatives?
- B: No. Just what's in the family. I don't know her older sister's name.
- J: And what did she do? My mother remembers her as a little girl.
- B: She divided her time: between my Aunt Jenny, who lived in New York and she [Sheindel] lived part of the time in New York and then went back and forth and then went back to New York. Then, later on, when the war came along and the kids went to war, she moved to Erie, with my Uncle Pasey died and he left a widow, Esther. So my Aunt Cherna moved in with Esther in Erie and they lived on 200 block of E. 21st Street.

J: So Cherna moved in with Esther?

B: After Pasey died.

J: Pasey and Esther had no children?



Esther and Peter Radov - 1922

B: They never had children. After Pasey died, my grandmother moved in, while Pasey was living yet. They lived on the 300 block of 17th Street. Esther and Pasey. My grandmother lived with them.

J: Right.

B: In the late 1920s and early 1930s, they lived on 300 block of 17th Street. Then, when the war came, Cherna moved to Erie and Pasey died and she moved in with *Tanta* Esther.

J: What was Sheindel like? My mother remembers playing cards with her.

B: She played Casino with them. Yes. That's all she did. She taught it to the grandchildren. She never worked or anything. She was always back and forth.

J: So she played cards with the grandkids.



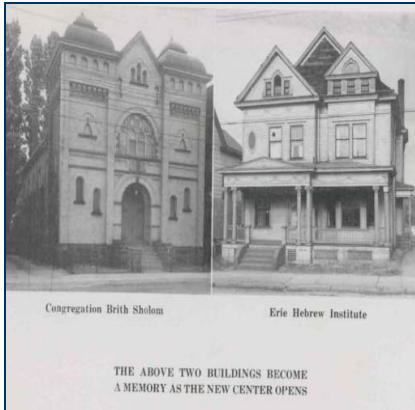
Pinochle Deck

B: Yes. She played Casino with the grandkids, with the children. Just one card game. Gin wasn't in fashion then.

J: Did she learn that in Russia or did she learn that here?

B: I think she learned that here. We were all great card players. Great card players to this day.

J: Did she go to *shul*?



Old Shul of CBS

B: Oh, yes. The big Shul was being built then, [The Jewish Center, Congregation *Brith Sholom*, 3207 State Street, the original building, see CBS Old Building & Cemetery, A99-107], but she did not want to ride on the Shabbas and it was too far for her to walk so she lived with us. So we went to the 17th Street Shul. It was across from Katz the butcher. [See Familiarity, Theology, & the World, A108-111, on early Radov beliefs].

J: Sure, I remember going there. My grandfather would take me there.

B: OK. That was where she went to *shul*, because she could walk there. We lived on 21st Street. She could walk there and that's about it. Let me ask you: did you want to know about the children and the grandchildren from the first wife?

J: Yes.

B: If you are not in a hurry, I would put it together. I know of them all from our side and there are just a couple of questions I need to get from Sandy Cohen. Give me a couple of weeks. I should get it then.

J: Let me ask you a little more now though. Did you know Jacob or Yankel's....

B: Yankel, yes. Yakov Radovsky.

J: Did you know of any of his brothers or sisters?

B: My grandfather's, no. He never talked about them.

J: My mother thinks that there were some Radovs who made their way to Chicago who may have been from his siblings. Do you know anything about that?

B: I know of the ones in Chicago.

J: No, these are different. Joe and Sylvia Radov. Did you ever hear of them?

B: Listen about 40 years ago, I talked about that 40 years ago like it was yesterday. Luba and I were going to plan a reunion. The only one that I knew from the first wife was Betty and I contacted Betty. And Betty gave me some names from the Radovs. Some of them were called Radov with an ff instead of a v, some were with a w at the end instead of a v. She gave me some names and I wrote them that I never heard because it was years already.

J: Right.

B: However, what I did learn: that's how I know some of these people. I collected all this data 40 years ago.

J: Let me go back to a couple of things that are not going to be on the card. I am going to ask about the two secrets you told me that I bet are not on the cards.

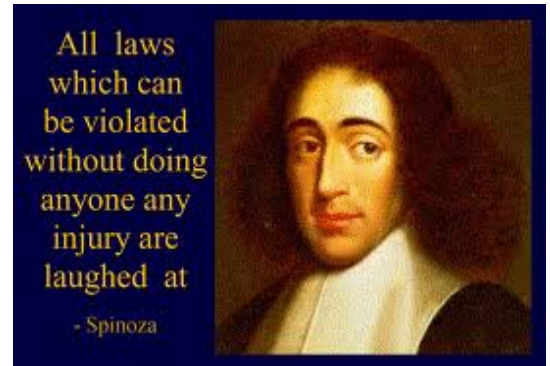
B: Not on the card. Yes.

J: The one who was not spoken of. Was there anybody else who married out or who was shunned or who was not spoken of besides the one?

B: No.

J: OK.

B: I will tell you, it was after the war (WW II) that Barney Bass told me, about the one who became a priest. He also told me that when my grandfather got ready to go to America, he came, and in fact Betty told me his name was Kayfman. [The religious censure that resulted in the shunning was the *cherem*, the greatest censure allowed. There were 24 enumerated offenses punishable – from swearing to breaking Kosher to tripping the blind – of various degrees of wrong and punishment. Becoming a Christian priest is not specifically listed in the Talmud. The best known individual the subject of the sentence of *cherem*, excommunication, was Baruch Spinoza, the great Dutch philosopher, for incorrigible heresy].



The most famous case of a *cherem* involved Baruch Spinoza

J: Spell that?



Kayfman Radov

B: K-A-Y-F-M-A-N. That was the one who was shunned.

J: That was his first name.

B: That was his first name.

J: Then Radov or Radovsky is his last name.

B: That is his last name.

- J: And he saw the family before they left.
- B: And he asked to be forgiven.
- J: Was he?
- B: Yes, this is hearsay now. I told you, I got it from Barney Bass.
- J: I know. So he was forgiven?
- B: Yes.
- J: Was he an Orthodox priest or a Catholic priest?



Barney Bass

- B: I don't know. There wasn't too much religion going down in Russia at that time.
- J: So you don't know what became of him.
- B: No. They lost all contact with him. Then there was the second son, Baryl. That's where the Barnard comes in.
- J: Right. Was there anybody else?
- B: He married a woman and her name was Hennyeh, I still remember her name. He died in Europe, but he left his widow with 4 girls. Ida, who married Wasserman, and Jenny and then there was Sandy's mother, Minnie. I remember when Minnie visited Luba and Morris when they lived on 24th Street, and then there was Betty. Then we got intertwined when Betty married Sam.
- J: This is a different Jenny than Cherna? Is this Jenny Cherna?

- B: No. It was a different Jenny. The Jenny from the other side.
- J: And Minnie is a different Minnie?
- B: The first Minnie. Yes.
- J: OK, and a different Ida.
- B: A different Ida.
- J: Wow.



Minnie Radov Cohen

B: I found my mother's passport yesterday. She was Chana Cheya. [See Chana Chaya Radovskaia's Passport, A34-52]. She said they called her Clare in Europe. Minnie Sakol in Chicago said that was so old-fashioned. What I'm trying to get at is that I also thought the Oregon bunch...

J: Right.



Morris Carlstein

B: At a spot in the cemetery there is a Carlstein and I asked her: did Muni ever talk about another brother. She said he only had one brother Bill. I questioned her about a Carlstein. There was a Carlstein, and all it says on the tombstone is that he was 18 years old. Who he was: he must have been Carlstein and Carol.

J: Right. Let me go back. In the first family, there was Ida, Jenny, Minnie and Betty were the 4 daughters. And you will get me that information later. Who was called Hanna?

B: My mother's Hebrew name was Channah Chaia.

J: Your mother was called Clare.

B: Right. What's your mother's Jewish name?

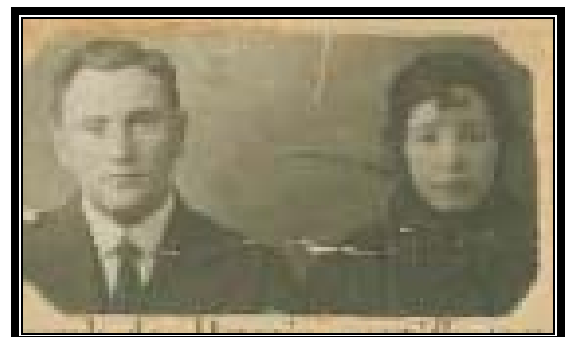
J: I don't remember. Not Clare.

B: She knows.

J: I know she knows. Let me ask you, did Luba ever talk about what happened to her family in Russia?

B: No.

J: Because she never told my mother, except that she mentioned she had a couple brothers and then she would not talk more about it. You never heard any of that.



Morris and Luba Radov - 1921

B: That was a great mystery. Nobody knows her family. He, Morris, was quite young when he married her.

J: She had a brother my grandfather had met in the Army.

B: It says on the picture he brought his boyfriend and the boyfriend's wife too. In fact, there is another person on the picture, the upper left hand corner, and no one seems to know who it is. I was wondering whether it was Carlstein.

J: Right.

B: Who came with them. You see the mystery is, they told me when Raful Carol left a woman pregnant with Muni. And Muni never saw his father until he was 9 years old, when Muni came to America. The big mystery was when did Carl come, because he and Minnie were here already before my mother came. You see when we were younger we never bothered asking those questions.

J: Right.

B: I know that Raful Carol was here earlier, whether he went back again for them, I don't know. But he was here. That's what the girls told me, that Muni was 9 years old before he saw his father here and I know that they were in America before, because my mother came here in 1911 and Minnie greeted them when she came. Minnie from Chicago greeted them when she came.



Minnie Carol Sakol

J: That Minnie is from?

B: Chicago.

J: Is that from the first marriage or the second?

B: The second.

J: Minnie [wife of Morry] Sakol. That's the one who's mother of Ted, Jordan and Cookie [Barbara], right.

B: Right.

J: Those people I remember.

B: They visited Erie.

J: Tell me, what happened to Lena?

B: Lena had the worst life that I have ever heard of anyone else. There again, hearsay. But Bill, he told me, she was raped by the Cossacks.

J: How old was she?

B: I know she was 13 years older than me. She would be 105 now.

J: How old was she when she was raped?

B: She was a young girl.

J: She came over in 1922.

B: It would have to have been before 1922.

J: What happened in the rape? Was she with her family?

B: I don't know. Here is another thing they told me. The Oregon bunch told me that there was one sister who was killed. That I never heard of.



Harry and Lena Smith - 1930

J: You mean one of Lena's sisters was killed by Cossacks in the same pogrom?

B: Yes. The Russian pogrom. Yes. [For discussion of the Kiev Pogrom, see A63-66].

J: Who knew about this incident in the family?

B: Muni knew it.

J: My mother didn't know it.

B: No. There were things they never talked about. As I said, it wasn't until after the War that I knew about the oldest one who defected from our family and religion and so on.

J: Did Lena get pregnant from the rape?

B: No. Not that I know of. No, I don't think so.

J: Did Lena meet her husband at Ellis Island? My mother [Clare Radov Levin, b. 1929] said she did.

B: I wouldn't say at Ellis Island. I think she met him in New York.

J: With Cherna?

B: With Cherna. It was an aunt and niece love/hate relationship. They would fight like, but they were like sisters. They would practically kill each other with words, but nobody would say a bad word to either one about the other because they were very, very close always. That's one reason they wanted to marry Lena off in a hurry. Lena was married in the 20s. She had hard luck, raped there, and came to America. The reason I know that she was 13 years older than I: we went to a wedding in New York and I stayed that summer and they went to the Mandiberg family in Boston, and I remember I was 13 and Lena was 26 at the time. That's how I know. Those things are stuck in your mind. She had a little baby there.



Lena Smith and Cherna Bass Thompson

J: I little what?

B: A little baby boy. And the baby died. Lived that summer with an infant. Went back. I don't think he was more than a year old, if that. Lena's first baby died. Then she got pregnant with Murray. Then Murray died. He took his car to an auto wash, and he was standing back and another car came along. He [the other driver] thought he put his foot on the brake but put it on the gas and crushed him. That's what they told me. And he was killed. He died. Then, in 1939, when I graduated college we went to New York – I remember, because I looked for a frame there to have my diploma framed – Lena was pregnant with Mona Sheila. I named her, in fact. Years later, when they all went to California, Sheila lost her daughter. Time marches on. Now she's married. She's got a daughter. She got up for school one morning, and [her daughter was] dead, that's all. She died, that's all. Lena had the worse maezel I thought possible for any human being to endure.

J: She was such a nice person.

B: She was always the best hearted one. There was never a sour note with her. It was always with laughter. Always a good time and always with laughter, but she had a miserable life.

J: Beside Sam Radov [See Bootlegging Case, A29-31, the legal case involving Sam Radov (and Frank Brown), mistakenly attributed to Morris P. Radov, but remembered by Barney R. Radov and Barney Halperin], and Betty Radovsky: were there any other cousins who married one another?

B: No.

J: Do you know how everyone came to Erie?

B: One pulled the other one.

J: How did they start off there?

B: I don't know. My Uncle Joe and Raful Carol were about the first.

J: I heard from Westy that they came to Erie because *Tanta* Cirka had family in Erie. [See Westy Radov Email, A32-33].

B: Katowitz, right.

J: And is that why they came to Erie?

B: The Katowitz's. Did you know Fay LaPidus?

J: No.

B: Donny LaPidus. Does that ring a bell? No. He moved from Erie. They lived on 23rd Street. The Katowitz's came. Cirka's sister married a Katowitz. Katowitz had a brother. The one brother stayed in Erie and the other one moved to Connecticut, I think. One was a fisherman and had a stall in the market. I think that's how George Tivas, who became a nephew I think, took charge, took it over.



Shtetl Fair

J: Do you know, when they were living in Russia, if they communicated with the family in the United States? Did people write letters?

B: I don't know.

J: They organized these trips. Joe went back. How did they do it?

B: I don't know. Joe went back a couple times.

J: But how did he do it? Did they write letters? How did they know they were coming?

B: They must have. I don't know. When you're younger, you don't ask those questions. Not that I wouldn't get an answer. But it just doesn't dawn on you. Now my baby, he asked me to make me an album. It took 61 years to do it. You just don't think of it when you're younger, that's all.

J: I'm waiting to get your stuff. I'm very much looking forward to it.

- B: You would have had it. I'm looking at it. The table is cluttered with my papers here. It was so fast, last Saturday. "I [Barney Halperin] don't feel good. I can't breathe." So went to the emergency room. They admitted him right away. But he's home now and he's getting along. Now I can spread this out and get it out to you. I should have called and let you know.
- J: Thank you very much.
- B: Don't thank me until it's done. I hope I can shed some light on it, that's all. It's from hearsay, from what they tell you. Also, what was Luba's maiden name?
- J: Levine.
- B: That's what I was told too. So that is what I accepted.
- J: I was told it was Luba Levine. I was told she had two brother, Abraham and someone else. She had three sisters. One of them was named Sonya. [The men were given Hebrew names, the women Russian ones].
- B: I never heard that. They never talked about it. Luba never wanted to talk much about it. Her philosophy was out of sight, out of mind. She left family in Europe, and never wanted to talk about it. Buried a child, never wanted to talk about it. Never would keep the picture [of Anna] up.
- J: I know. My mother does not like to talk of such things.
- B: Really. Listen. I think I mentioned before. We rented a place when we moved to Meadville, and this woman was showing me on album and talked about the daughter. So I said: where is she? "Oh she's dead, she died." And I said you can look at the album. "Oh yes, she brought us...we're glad we had her for when we did and brought us... My husband, when we spoke of his mother, he would mention her name, and always had a smile on his face."
- J: Right.
- B: So there are other people who always take it with a smile.
- J: Did you say you had the birth certificate from your mother?
- B: Not the birth certificate, the passport.
- J: Does that say where she was born?
- B: If anyone could interpret it, maybe I'll get a Russian here to interpret it.

J: I can get it interpreted if you get it to me.

B: Will do. I'll send it along.

J: OK. Well, it's good talking to you.

B: It was good. I'm sorry that it has taken me so long. But be patient and I'll get it to you. I have to do first things first.

J: Right.



Ava Levin – 2009

B: I'm not as young as I used to be. It isn't the driving that tires me out, it's the walking to where you go to do shopping or whatever that tires you out.

J: Right.

B: I even have your daughter's name. Ava Victoria [b. 1998], I even have that. I had Jennifer [b. 1987] and Reid's [b. 1984] name before that. And your first wife's name: Susan Hunt?

J: Yes. You're good.

B: I have it on paper, but I don't have the paper in front of me right now. We were going to do a whole thing on that. I had Betty as my advisor then. So I collected little bits from everybody else. Then, I met Sandy. I went to Betty's funeral and that's where I met Sandy. I looked at him from the nose up and said you look just like someone in our family, Minnie. He said he was Minnie's son. I said was this sacrilegious because we went to a funeral but had the best time, because he was marking down things that he wanted to know about our family. Just what you're asking me now.



Betty R. Radov - 1955



Lesley Radov



Mitzi Radov Kerness

J: That's Sandy Cohen?

B: Cohen. I told Betty when she [Lesley Radov, b. 1948] moved to Boston. I told Mitzi [Kerness, b. 1931] and we got them all together and Mitzi had a big party at her house when the Bostonians came, about 30 people there, the cousins and all.

J: Right.

B: 10, 12 years ago. So we brought that family together. They always kept in touch with Betty, going to Boston. That's all I know. I'll include everything I know. You can take out of it what you want.

J: Thank you very much.

Conversation with Bertha Blau – Thursday, June 30, 2011

J: Bertha it's Joel Levin. How are you?

B: I've got problems here. My brother Barney [Halperin] is sick. He decided he would drive and then he got sick again. I got your telephone call and I would have got to it today or tomorrow. But what can I do now?

J: First of all, I want to thank for the papers you sent me. I have some questions on them. On your mother's passport, do you still have it?

B: Yes. I did not know where I put it. It was in the bank. But I got it out.

J: If you send it to me, I know someone who knows about these things.

B: OK. Were the notes good?

J: Yes. For your grandfather, do you know his first wife's first name?

B: No.

J: Do you know where the Mandibergs live?

B: Well, my cousin was a doctor, Dr. Jack Mandiberg in Detroit. He must be gone by now. We always had a good relationship with them. They had one of the biggest delis in New York [see The Gaiety Delicatessen, A67-68] and then in Patterson, New Jersey.

J: How precisely is Jack related?

B: His father was a first cousin to my mother. His father came from the Mandibergs, from my grandmother's family.

J: His father was a Mandiberg.

B: Yes, was a Mandiberg.

J: Was he was the nephew of your grandmother?

B: Yes.

J: There must have been two sisters and a brother, because the brother carried on the name Mandiberg.

B: Right.

J: What kind of doctor was he?

B: M.D., general practice.

J: Was his first name really John and they just called him Jack?



Jack Mandiberg - 1934

B: No. It was Jake. Jacob. Very few Jews are a John.

J: Right, that's better. I have a cousin, Jacob Brown [married to Betty Levin, younger brother of Frank Brown, mentioned with Sam Radov in Bootlegging Case, A29-31].

B: I put a lot of stuff in there. I figured I put whatever I know about them and what you can use, OK, and what you cannot use, just disregard it. That's all.



Jack (Jacob) Blau

J: You said that your grandfather looked like your brother Barney Halperin. Who did your grandmother look like?

B: I think my mother looked like her.

J: Looked like your mother?

B: Yes.

J: How did people end up in Meadville?

B: After the war when Barney came back, there was a lull in the junk business at that time. Barney had an opportunity to get a dry cleaning place. Barney knew Meadville. He went to Allegheny and graduated from Allegheny and he never really left Meadville. It was like a second home to him.

J: This is Barney your brother.



Barney and Penny Halperin

B: Yes. I ended in up in Greenville, but we were a very close family.

J: All the cousins went to college. Is that right?



Mercyhurst College

B: All of them went to college. I don't know if they all graduated.

J: That is still pretty impressive that everyone went college. Where did you go to college?

B: I went to Mercyhurst. I got my Masters at Pitt.

J: Your brother went to Allegheny?

B: Yes, graduated from Allegheny. Mitzi [Radov Kerness] went to the University of Miami, not Miami University. But she did not graduate. Clare [Radov Levin] went to Oklahoma.

J: Right.

B: Yes. It was impressive. I would say very well educated.

J: Now Maymie Radov, Menya Radovsky. She was the oldest.

B: Yes.

J: So Minnie was her daughter. Right?



Menya, Lena(Minnie) holding Ted, and Sheindel Radov



Minnie Carol Sakol

B: Minnie was her daughter.

J: And she had three children. Ted, Jordan and Cookie.

B: Yes. Minnie had three. In fact, I just got a note that Ted's wife re-married. She was a widow, and she lives not far from me here. I will give her a call one of these days.

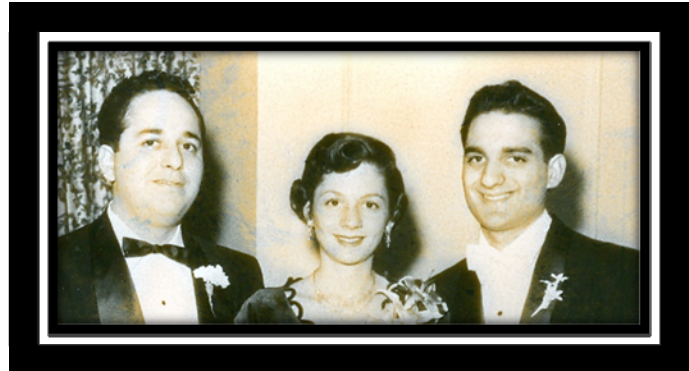
J: That's Shelly. Right?

B: Yes, that was Ted's wife.

J: So there was Ted, Jordan and Cookie. What is her name, her real name?

B: Barbara.

J: Barbara, that's right, from Detroit. She died a long time ago.



Ted, Barbara (Herman) and Jordan Sakol - 1952

B: Yes. From MS [and cancer].

J: That's right.

B: She was the middle one. Jordy was the baby. He was the only one born in Erie. It was so bad during the Depression that they couldn't keep up there in Chicago and came back to their mother and boarded with them for a while.

J: Who did they board with?

B: With their mother and father, the Carols.

J: What did he do for a living?

B: They were either peddlers or had a stall at the market. That is what the Carls did. They had a stall in the Central Market.

J: What kind of stall?

B: They called them stalls. Today we call them flea markets. They were flea markets and they had various concessions. It's stalls they called them.

J: The Central Market. By 18th and French?

B: The Central Market was on the corner of 16th Street on the westside of State on 16th Street, going down to 14th.

J: Is that what Peter [1870-1943] did too? Did he have a stall on the market?

B: Listen, he was pretty old when he came, and he had a stroke and he barely could talk [Talking very slowly and haltingly]. He talked that way just now. Did you hear me?

J: I heard you.

B: He could not do too much of anything. He did not last too much after that. My son Paul is named for him. Gus's oldest daughter [Patti or Patricia Radov Notarious, 1943-2004] was named for him. Lynn [Paulette] Radov was named for name. They are all going to be in Erie on August 7th for the unveiling for Adele [Radov, 1924-2011]. Lynn called me. I know you are pretty close to Jeff.



Patti and Lynn Radov



Janel and Barry Levin - 1980

J: Yes. I went to the funeral.

B: The unveiling is going to be Sunday, August the 7th.

J: My brother Barry's [1953-2007] middle name was Peter.

B: Yes, we have a lot of them. Patti, Gus's daughter, was born shortly after he died.

J: Let me go back here. Peter and Esther, were they married in Russia?

B: Europe. Yes. He was married before.

J: Did he have any children by his first marriage?

B: No, he never had any children.

J: What happened to his first wife? Did she die?



Esther and Peter Radov - 1922

B: Yes, I guess so. I don't know too much. We didn't talk too much about it. [In fact, she died in childbirth with Peter or Pasey].

J: Did Esther [1884-1954] have any family in the United States?

B: No. She was just alone. I want to tell you something. Esther came from a very wealthy family. Very wealthy. My mother used to tell me that. They used to have a seamstress, just sewing and making clothes and garments for her. They came from a wealthy family.

- J: From what city?
- B: They did not have any money afterwards when they came, they were broke, poor Uncle Joe brought them all over.
- J: Was Esther from Kiev?
- B: Near there.
- J: How did Joe make all his money?
- B: Bootleg. And they had a kosher restaurant upstairs in downtown Erie. It was about 1216 State Street and it was on the second floor and it was a kosher restaurant and did no good, but they kept it up because they had the whole second floor and they didn't have slot machines, but they had poker games there. A gambling place.
- J: They gambled there.
- B: Sure.
- J: Was that legal or did they just do that quietly?
- B: Quietly. Uncle Joe, he had a *savoir faire* for everybody. He was in tight with the police and all the enterprises. Everybody loved Uncle Joe.
- J: He was tight with the police and who else?
- B: He was the type of person who always worked for the Temple for the Center, for the shul, whatever you want to call it. He would go in and sell the tickets and the poorest of poor would make an effort to spend whatever it was, they would have to buy from Uncle Joe. They would feel guilty if they could not buy from Uncle Joe. That's the fellow he was. Everybody loved him.
- J: Let me ask you about Minnie, who had a sister who was killed in Russia.
- B: I did not know about the sister. Pam Smith [Muni's daughter] from Oregon told me that.
- J: The sister was killed in the same series of events with Lena. Right?
- B: Yes.



Molly, Patrick, Andrew, and Pam Carl Smith

J: You do not know her name?

B: No.

J: Let me ask you, your father was in the scrap business and then went to Meadville later?

B: He went to Meadville after the war.

J: Was he in the scrap business with Joe and my grandfather?

B: No. That was separate. 1819 German Street. Wait a minute. Even before this, we had a beer distributing place, on 18th and German, on the east side of the street. He owned that big building. My father made a lot of money in real estate, but when the crash came, he lost it all. He lost his own home. He had near beer. Just a small amount of alcohol was allowed.



Koehler Wall

J: Yes. Near beer. Right.

B: Yes. He had that. When he went out of business. he had an offer from Black's Brewing Company [later Koehler] for a half of million dollars, because we had the railroad siding a private siding right there.

J: But he did not take it.

B: He did not take it, no. It was only a half of million. Yes. They are too big sometimes and they do not want to be reasonable.

J: On the chart with my grandparents. The only thing you missed, and this may surprise you, is Artie [Levin, b. 1956] had a son.

B: He did. I did not know that.

J: Nobody knew it until a year ago.

B: Right. Little Artie.



Artie Levin – 2011

- J: He gave his son up without telling anyone in the family 22 years ago. Benjamin [McGary].
- B: How did a thing like that ever leak out? Slip of the tongue or somebody knew and told somebody else?
- J: The adopted mother knew Artie's name and told her son. He called me up out of the blue last summer.



Benjamin McGary – 2010

- B: Boy, that knocked you off your feet.
- J: We met him and he is a very nice boy.
- B: Not his fault.
- J: Right. All I can say is that he is an extremely nice boy. His name is Benjamin. I knew you did not know that.
- B: No.

- J: That would be a surprise to anybody. Let me ask you, you said that everybody in the early years used to congregate at Joe and Cirka's house.



Cirka and Joe Radov - 1925

- B: Absolutely.
- J: Would this be almost every night or just a couple nights a week or what happened?
- B: You never knew. Any and every drifter that came in town found their way to that house too. You never knew and I cannot tell you how many people she outfitted. She used to take clothes off her kids and put them on strangers who came along. The beggars.
- J: This was Cirka who did this?
- B: Yes.
- J: I remember in the 1950s, my grandparents would often have everybody over for big card games. Is that what they used to do earlier?
- B: Card games and talked. They all played cards. They played *goyishe* [gentile] pinochle or Jewish pinochle.

- J: What's Jewish pinochle?
- B: Jewish pinochle, they had one bid only and they played for threes and *goyishe* pinochle was another way to do it. They always laughed. Every man played pinochle. The women played poker. They would start at night and play all night.
- J: So did people travel much from Erie except for business?
- B: No. Everybody stayed in town. Yes. The kids left. When the kids went off to school, they never came back. That's what happens.
- J: That was true for WWII, everybody went off to the war as well. Right.
- B: Right. I played cards with a woman here. But she died and her husband died. I would hear everything about the Mandibergs, because I was at their house one afternoon after she finished the conversation. She said something about "Well, OK Mr. Mandiberg" and she hung up and I asked her, I come from a Mandiberg family and all. She was telling me that Jack had an older brother and he was married to this women's brother or her husband's sister, one of them tangled up, and it was strange. You never know who you are going to meet. I even knew where they came from, Connecticut. The Shapiros from Connecticut. They knew all the Mandibergs. That is where he lived.
- J: How old would Jack [1914-2003] be today?
- B: If he lived, 97 maybe.
- J: I see [online] there is a Jack Mandiberg, married to a woman named Helen [1913-2005]. They are in their 90s in Michigan.
- B: That's the one.



Paul Blau - 1963

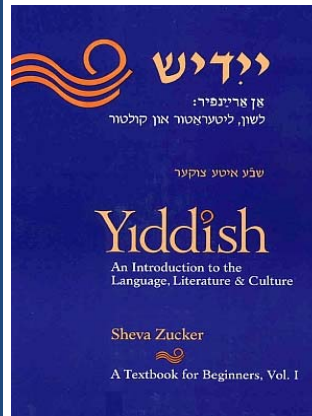
- J: You never met her though.
- B: Yes, I met her. I was in her home years ago, but we lost contact with them. They came to my son Paul's Bar Mitzvah, he and his wife. Then Jack [Blau, 1917-1983] and I took a trip sometime out west and we stopped there.
- J: Did you ever meet the kids?
- B: No. They were not around. Jack interned in the hospital when my Aunt Jenny lived in New York. We always managed to see him in the hospital there, not far from where Jennie lived.

J: I just looked this up, that there is a Helen and Jack who had children David, Lois, Joseph, and Takao Nagai. [Lois is married to Richard Friedland, parents of Rachel and Ben; Joseph is married to Linda, parents of Michael and Stephen].

B: Where did that come from?

J: It comes from using the internet.

B: Oh.



J: There is someone in Southfield, Michigan with that name.

B: Southfield. When most of them got high brow, nobody lived in Detroit. It became too *schvartze* [Yiddish for black], so they went to Southfield or they went to Grosse Point. So that's probably them.

Yiddish, the family's language in Russia, is derived from German and Hebrew, with significant contributions from Aramaic and Slavic. It became a distinct language around 1000 A.D. in central Europe and spread east. It is one of three Jewish languages that uses the Hebrew alphabet (along, obviously, with Hebrew and Ladino). It was only once the official language, that of Birobidzhan – shown above, picturing the train station with a menorah. For online football fans, a star of Hattrick's *Tekstilchik Birobidzhan* virtual soccer team is T. Radov. Birobidzhan is a Siberian oblast (region) created by Stalin and the Soviets to resettle many of Russia's Jews.

J: OK. And that's the only one of the Mandibergs you know, Jack?

B: I knew his brother and his father.

J: What was his father's name?

B: Fishel. The next generation had a lot of Barneys and they had a lot of Fishels and Moishes. MP was a Moishe Fishel.

J: Right.

B: I am sure that is Jack Mandiberg. That's the one, her name was Helen, come to think of it. How many children did they have? Three?

J: Yes. Now Peter, when he came here, used the name Radov. He did not use Radovsky.

B: They used Radovsky. Radow too.

J: I will send it to you. At some point, the younger Radov family might want to know some of this, and there is almost no one to tell them.

B: I was too dumb to want to know. And it was getting too late.

J: I will send this to you and you will send me the passport of your mother. [See Chana Chaya Radovskaia's Passport, A34-52].

Continued

B: Hi. It's the old school teacher in me. It didn't take long for me to find it, Jack Mandiberg's office and home.

J: How did you find him originally?

B: We always kept in touch with them. They had a deli. For years, that's all they ever did. They were strictly a kosher deli. It cost too much money for them for *Pesach* to get all new equipment, so they closed up for *Pesach*. They closed up and they took their vacation and they came to us every year, along with Peshel's brother and the brother's wife [Max and Minnie].

J: But he was a doctor, how did he have a delicatessen?

B: His parents had the deli. [See The Gaiety Delicatessen, A67-68].

J: You don't remember their names.

B: Fishel [or Peshel or Moishe Peshel]. I told you Fishel, Fishel Mandiberg. They had a deli in New York in Brooklyn and they also had a deli in Patterson, New Jersey.

J: So that would have been your grandmother's brother?

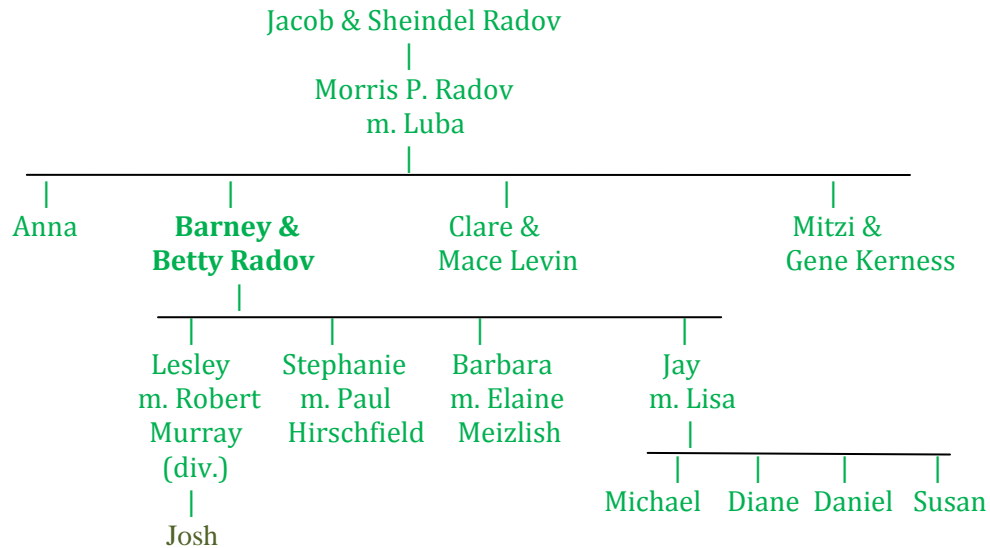
B: No. Fishel was a cousin to my mother.

J: He was a cousin to your mother and his father would have been your grandmother's brother.



Barney & Penny Halperin, Paul Blau, Ida Halperin, Jimmy Blau, Harold & Jacob Halperin
Bertha and Jacob Blau, and in front, Farley and Ellis Halperin (Jimmy Blau's Bar Mitzvah - 1963)

BARNEY R. RADOV & BETTY RADOV



Barney R. Radov and Betty Radov; Conversation with Joel Levin – Wednesday, July 6, 2011

- J: You were describing your grandmother [Sheindel Bossie Mandiberg Radov]. What did you say she was?
- B: A tough cookie. I will give you an example. She lived with my mother and father [Luba and Morris Radov] and she was so terrible to my mother that my father had to take her out of the house. She went to live with my Uncle Peter and Aunt Esther.
- J: That's what my mother [Clare Levin] remembers, that she was not nice to Luba.
- B: She was not nice to anybody. She was just a tough woman.
- J: Why was that? What do you think?
- B: I don't know. I think she was mad at the world. Whatever it was.
- J: What do you know of your grandmother's family, the Mandibergs?
- B: I know she was a Mandiberg, but I do not know anything about that family.
- J: Both sisters were Mandibergs. Bertha [Blau] knew Jack Mandiberg, who would have been a cousin, probably your grandmother's nephew?
- B: I don't know. They had a delicatessen in Patterson, New Jersey.
- J: Right. Then some of the family moved to Detroit, Jack and Helen. Did you know them?

B: No.

J: Did you know about the oldest son, Kayfman, the one who became a priest.

B: No. I heard about it, but I never got any details on it.

J: Who did you hear about it from? Just the family?

B: Just the family.



Barney R. and Betty Radov - 1950



Kayfman Radov

J: Do you know if he became Catholic or Orthodox or Protestant?

B: I have no idea.

J: OK.

B: I don't think he became Pope.

J: What about the Radovsky's? Bertha seems to think you and Betty knew a lot more about them from going up to Boston when Lesley [Radov] and Josh [Murray] lived there.

B: I knew the Cohens. They were part of Jack's family.

Betty: Minnie and Jack. Minnie was the

Immunology, 1975, 29, 977.

Relationship between age of allogeneic thymus donor and immunological restoration of athymic ('nude') mice.

L A Radov, D H Sussdorf, and R L McCann

Abstract

In nude mice back-crossed a minimum of five times to BALB/c, solid thymus grafts from C57Bl donors 3 days of age or younger restored both the humoral immune response against sheep erythrocytes and cellular immunity as tested by rejection of CBA skin grafts. Donor thymus placed under the renal capsule at a dose of 0.5 mg/g of recipient resulted in normal humoral immunity, while a minimum dose of 1.5 mg/g was required to reconstitute cellular competence. None of the various amounts of allogeneic thymus tissue transplanted affected the immunological status of nude recipients when grafts were obtained from donors 4 days of age or older. Histological findings correlated with the humoral and cellular responses observed. In nudes grafted with neonatal tissue, the thymus implant proliferated and developed normal architecture. The density of lymphocytes in thymus-dependent regions of peripheral lymphoid organs was near normal. On the other hand, most grafts from older (3-week-

11652-**The Journal of Neuroscience**, Nov. 8, 2006-26(45)

Broad-Spectrum Effects of 4-Aminopyridine to Modulate Amyloid β_{1-42} -Induced Cell Signaling and Functional Responses in Human Microglia

1. Sonia Franciosi
2. Jae K. Ryu
3. Hyun B. Choi
4. Lesley Radov
5. Seung U. Kim and
6. James G. McLarnon

Abstract

We investigated the modulating actions of the nonselective K⁺ channel blocker 4-aminopyridine (4-AP) on amyloid β ($\text{A}\beta_{1-42}$)-induced human microglial signaling pathways and functional processes. Whole-cell patch-clamp studies showed acute application of $\text{A}\beta_{1-42}$ (5 μM) to human microglia led to rapid expression of a 4-AP-sensitive, non-inactivating outwardly rectifying K⁺ current (I_K). Intracellular application of the nonhydrolyzable analog of GTP, GTP γ S, induced an outward K⁺ current with similar properties to the $\text{A}\beta_{1-42}$ -induced I_K including sensitivity to 4-AP (IC_{50} = 5 mM). Reverse transcriptase-PCR showed a rapid expression of a delayed rectifier Kv3.1 channel in $\text{A}\beta_{1-42}$ -treated microglia. $\text{A}\beta_{1-42}$ peptide also caused a slow, progressive increase in levels of $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_i$ (intracellular calcium) that was partially blocked by 4-AP. Chronic exposure of human microglia to $\text{A}\beta_{1-42}$ led to enhanced p38 mitogen-activated protein kinase and nuclear factor κB expression with factors inhibited by 4-AP. $\text{A}\beta_{1-42}$ also induced the expression and production of the pro-inflammatory cytokines interleukin (IL)-1 β , IL-6, and

J: daughter. She was the Radov. Right. Thank goodness you're back on.

old) donors were resorbed by 90 days after implantation. In a number of cases, however, Russell bodies and numerous blast and plasma cells were seen in the graft site. Our observations suggest a possible cytotoxic rejection of implants from older allogeneic donors, while the survival and restorative capacity of transplants from 3-day-old or younger donors may have been due to a tolerogenic effect of the graft on the nude recipient.

tumor necrosis factor- α , the chemokine IL-8, and the enzyme cyclooxygenase-2; 4-AP was effective in reducing all of these pro-inflammatory mediators. Additionally, toxicity of supernatant from $A\beta_{1-42}$ -treated microglia on cultured rat hippocampal neurons was reduced if 4-AP was included with peptide. *In vivo*, injection of $A\beta_{1-42}$ into rat hippocampus induced neuronal damage and increased microglial activation. Daily administration of 1 mg/kg 4-AP was found to suppress microglial activation and exhibited neuroprotection. The overall results suggest that 4-AP modulation of an $A\beta_{1-42}$ -induced I_K (candidate channel Kv3.1) and intracellular signaling pathways in human microglia could serve as a therapeutic strategy for neuroprotection in Alzheimer's disease pathology.

Early and later work in microbiology by Barney and Betty's oldest daughter, Lesley Radov

B: Bernie passed away. Sandy Cohen is a cousin who went to college at the age of 15 and I think he taught at MIT for about 30 years. He's really a brain. If anything, he would remember.

J: Was Sandy his given name?

B: Sanford.

Betty: His mother was a Radov, who was a daughter of your great-grandfather's first wife.

J: Right.

Betty: OK. He is more interested than a lot of people. His aunt was Minnie Radov, who was married to Sam Radov.



Early Jewish Marriage between cousins, Jacob and Rachel

J: Right. That's Betty Radovsky.

B: The cousins married each other.

J: My mother said that your father [Morris P. Radov] told Betty not to marry Sam.

B: Right. She did not listen. Sandy Cohen might be a good lead.

Betty: Sandy or Eileen, his sister.

J: What year were you born Barney?

B: 1923. [Actually October 6, the same day as his father, M.P. Radov, 26 years before and M.P.'s father, Yankel Radov, 79 years before].

J: OK. Your grandmother went to live with Peter and Esther?

B: In Erie.



Eileen and Jack Goldman

Betty: I found the numbers of Barbara and Sandy Cohen, and Sandy's sister Eileen and her husband, Jack Goldman.

J: I have a couple of follow up question from what Bertha said for Barney.

Betty: OK. I will hang up. Sorry I have to rush.

J: Barney, you don't have information on Luba's family right?

B: Actually none. She never wanted to talk about her family.

J: The names of her family my mother [Clare Levin] gave me, which I have put in here, that is the only thing my mother ever heard. You didn't even hear that?

B: I never heard of the names.

J: My mother said Luba never would speak of her family.

B: Never.

J: My mother said that her parents met because Luba's brother was friendly with MP. Did you hear that?



Barney R. Radov with grandchildren: Michael, Diane, Daniel and Susan Radov - 2003

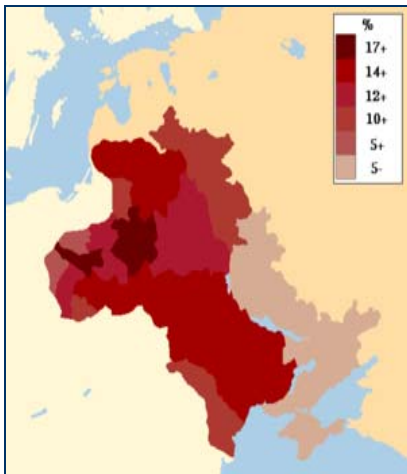
B: I heard that. You know, my mother only knew Russian. She had to learn Yiddish and English.

J: She did not know Yiddish growing up?

B: I don't believe so.

J: So she must have been much more Westernized than the Radovs [or Khazar, A53-54].

B: Than my father, yes.



Pale of Settlement for Jews

J: Do you know what town she was from?

B: My dad said Kiev, but Jews were not allowed to live or work in Kiev. [They were generally confined to rural areas called the Pale and, at one time, not allowed in Kiev. That changed, with a few allowed at first, expelled in 1843, and later again allowed to live there in limited numbers officially after 1865, with an amnesty for further illegals in 1880. However, an additional 600,000 Jews remained near but outside of Kiev, barred from legal entry. See 19th Century Kiev Synagogues, A75-76 A74-75 for three late 19th Century Synagogues in Kiev for the city's Jewish residents]. They were probably in a village outside Kiev.

J: Bertha may actually be able to get me that because she has her mother's Russian passport which she is sending me which may have the place. [See the passport of Bertha Blau and Barney Halperin's mother, Chana Chaya Radovskaia, in Russian and English, A34-52]. Bertha never read it, because she does not read Russian.

B: OK.



Brodsky Synagogue - Kiev

J: What about Bertha's view of the early days in the 1920s? She said that people would meet often at Joe and Cirka's house and all of the family would come together and play cards.

B: Joe and Cirka's house was the center of social activity for our family. All the sedars were there, all the holidays were there. He was the older brother and he was a politician. He used to take care of the judges and the police with whiskey. They used to call him the man to get the Jewish vote out. That was the center of family activity.



Cirka and Joe Radov - 1925

J: I understand Cirka was the big cook in the family.

B: That is correct. Cirka would cook for everybody.

J: Right.

B: She took care of all the immigrants and all the newcomers. My Uncle Joe was the one, when Jewish beggars and homeless would come through Erie, they were sent to my Uncle Joe's house and he would give them a few bucks to get onto the next town. As a matter of fact, there was a sign on the tree in front of this house so all these homeless people knew, this is the house where you go to get a couple of bucks.

J: What did the sign say?

B: I don't know. It was something in the tree that they knew.

J: What about my grandfather, your father? What did he first do when he came here?

B: When he first came here, they gave him a horse and a wagon. Because he spoke many languages, he went into the ethnic neighborhoods. He could speak Polish and Slavic and all those languages and he would peddle. [Peddling – fruits and vegetables, clothes, scrap, anything that was appropriate and available – was the family business. Joe Radov was the first in this country to peddle, but almost certainly not the first in Russia. See Joe Radov and his horse, Huckster, peddling vegetables, in A73-74].



Jewish peddlers selling sheepskin in Eastern Europe



Morris Radov –1925

J: What would he peddle?

B: First it was fruit, because my Uncle Joe was in the fruit business. Then he went into the scrap business. [Scrap may have been in the blood. See Yekaterinoslav and Ekaterinoslav, A81-85].

J: Wasn't Peter in the fruit business too?

B: He had a stand in the 12th Street Market. I used to go there after school and help him out. He sold fruits and vegetables.

J: So Peter was in that same business, but with a stand.

B: With a stand on his own.

- J: My mother said her father spoke 9 or 11 languages. How did he learn all the languages?
- B: He was extremely bright, Joel. He picked up languages like water.
- J: When did he and Joe decide to go into the scrap business?
- B: He went into the scrap business with Dave Gabin in the 1920s.
- J: And Joe?
- B: Not Joe. Then, Dave Gabin was the inside man who ran the operation and my father was the outside man, where he would buy the material and bring it into the yard. Then Dave, one day, said each should go their own way. My dad said, well I think it is a mistake. But my father grew and David didn't. But they remained friends.
- J: Was Joe bootlegging all through this period?
- B: Joe was bootlegging during Prohibition. Yes.
- J: Was your father bootlegging with him?
- B: Everybody in the family was involved one way or the other.
- J: OK. I wanted to know your memories of Anna.
- B: My sister Anna.
- J: Yes, Anna. My mother doesn't speak of her.
- B: Well, number one, she was a straight A student. She died fifteen days before her 15th [perhaps 14th] birthday. She was a very, very accomplished pianist. We had a chow dog, half chow, half mongrel, that used to walk Anna and me to Academy [Middle and High School], back and forth. My sister played piano and we had a baby grand in the living room. And when my sister died, the chow went under the piano and died of a broken heart. We took him to a vet and there was nothing wrong with him. The vet said he just knew something was wrong and the dog died. Now what my sister had, she was sick. The doctor was Frank McCarthy, who was head of St. Vincent's and a surgeon, who saved my father's life from an appendectomy one day. He was in Florida on vacation in St. Pete's. So my father called the Jewish doctor, Dr. Roth, because my sister was in bed and she was not well. After the sixth day, she was not getting any better. He said, "Oh she's got the flu." So my father called Dr. Roth, who was a doctor with McCarthy, and asked him to come to the house. He



Anna Radov

came to the house and took one look at my sister and said “She has pneumonia. Why isn’t she in an oxygen tent? That’s where she belongs.” Well, they put a tent up, but she died the next day.



Black Chow Chow

J: And Luba never recovered from that, did she?

B: That’s one of the reasons I transferred from Washington and Lee to Allegheny. The war [WWII] broke out and my mother was hysterical that I was so far away from home. So I left Washington and Lee and went to Allegheny.

J: Did you ever hear any other stories about life in Russia?

B: No. I do know my father had something to do with trains.



Fastov Station, Russia

J: Right.

B: An inspector or something and he could get people favors by his position there. Through his position is how he got all the family together. Joe came over and got the visas. That’s how they got out of Russia.

J: Did you know whether he was in the army? I understood that is how he met Luba, through Luba’s brother, who also was in the army.

B: I think he was in the reserves. I don’t think he was in active duty. They had something equivalent to the army, but he was so vital to the train business that, whatever he was involved with, he had to be there.

J: Did the two Radovs swap houses at some point?

B: No. My Uncle Joe built a house next to our house on [137 W.] 37th Street.

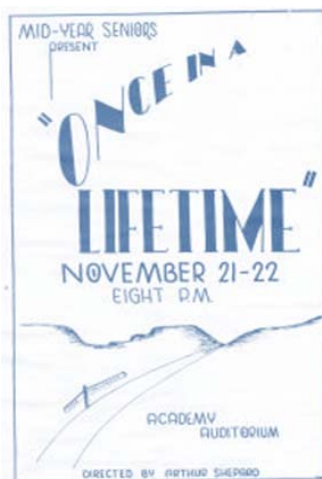
J: I see. Did they also live on 31st Street before that they moved near each other.



Morris and Luba's house on 37th Street,
next door to Joe and Cirka Radov.

- B: No. My father bought the house on [143 E.] 31st Street while my mother was in the hospital with Clare. He surprised her.
- J: She wasn't involved in picking it out?
- B: No. My father just bought it. Just like he bought the one on 37th Street.
- J: OK. Thanks for the information and help.

Postscript. Barney R. Radov, the last of the Barneys or Bernards, died in August 2013. (This excepts William Bernard, aka, Barney, Devaris, grandson to Barney Bass). This was four months after Betty, his wife of 66 years, and their son-in-law Paul (Stephanie's husband), each passed away from malignancies. Barney's many accomplishments aside – head of the family scrap business (Independent Iron and Metal); President, like his cousin, father and uncle, of Congregation Brith Sholom; founding President of the Committee For Better Schools in Erie; and Army Air Force intelligence officer in W.W. II; along with a host of civic and Jewish board memberships– he was, like so many of the Radovs, a man of singular good humor, collegiality and a lover of life. Two themes of his eulogies, other than devotion to family and community, were that it seemed, for almost everyone under 70 in the room, Barney had served them their first drink (Chivas Regal), often at a remarkably young age, all now connoisseurs and non-alcoholics; and his love of golf, where he almost, but not quite, achieved his goal of shooting his age. The week before, approaching 90, he shot 104. This Radov Family History would not exist without his gracious advice and encouragement.



Cast

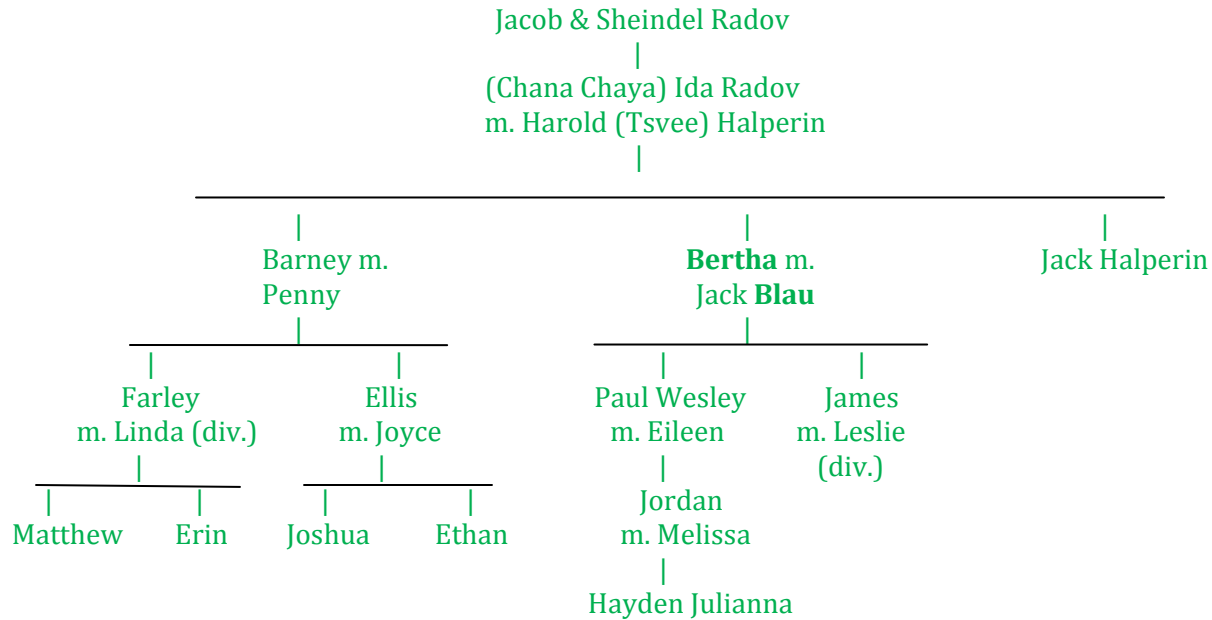
George Lewis	-----	Edward Mather
May Daniels	-----	Shirley Leonard
Jerry Highland	-----	Jerry Becker
Helen Hobart	-----	Marian Simmons
Derson Walker	-----	Shirley Schlecht
Phyllis Fontaine	-----	Jean Mac Innes
Florabel Liegh	-----	Elanore Epp
Herman Glogauer	-----	George Schnell
Metersein	-----	Barry Radov
Victoria Mowten	-----	Victoria Seroka
Orlivia Fulton	-----	Ellenor Tilloston

* * * * *

General Student Director	-----	Elanore Russell
Cast Student Director	-----	Barney Radov
Stage Manager	-----	Richard Wueschel

An early supporter of the arts, Barney previewed (on stage as an actor, but not off stage as a director) the name Barry, popular for the next generation, in 1939.

BERTHA HALPERIN BLAU



Bertha Blau; Conversation with Joel Levin – Monday, July 11, 2011

J: Bertha, it's Joel. How are you?

B: Good. I wanted to thank you for sending the mail on to me. I read what Barney had to say and I think I have a couple of corrections in there.

J: OK. Good. Tell me.

B: Well do you have it in front of you?

J: I do not.

B: When Barney and Betty [Radov] talked about Cohens, they were part of Jack's family. I don't know who they meant. I think they meant Jack Cohen. That was the father of Sandy.

J: OK.



Jack Cohen

B: I think that's what they meant. But then it says Betty: Minnie and Jack. OK. That was his mother and father. Minnie was the daughter. She was the Radov. [Radovsky]. That is not right. She was the mother. Also, when he said Berty passed way, who was Berty?

J: I don't know.

B: I will call Barney R. Radov and find out who it is.

J: OK.

B: But it is very interesting about the doctor [of Anna]. That was the wrong doctor's name which they said it was a Jewish doctor, Roth. He was not a Jewish doctor. I cannot think of his name. I will think of that doctor name was and all. But Barney's comments were pretty good. The thing about *Tanta* Cirka. Anybody and everybody saw a mark on the tree to tell them where to come.

J: Yes. That is the story that everyone should hear.

B: Listen. There was a widow who had a store on Peach Street, you don't remember the old Aris Theater was there, and there was a little grocery store. She was a hunchback and it was hard for her to get another guy. So we had another fellow in Erie who had a funny eye, but she made the match. She made the *shidduch* [agreement to marry] between them.

J: Cirka did.

B: She took a suit from Gus [Radov, her son] and put it on him and we laughed, so that was the wedding and set up a *chuppah* in her house. *Tanta* Cirka married him off, married a lot of them off, including these people who come through. It was really something there, every holiday. It was a real standby. When Barney said Pasey had a stand or stall in the market, I don't know whether it was 12th Street. The 12th Street Market came very late.

J: My mother is going to add something to that.

B: Oh sure. We can get together when we can talk. Anybody can make a correction or addition.

J: Right.



Kiev Chuppah by Alex Levin



Ida Halperin

- B: I think it's great. You took a great project and did a good job on it.
- J: Well thank you. I translated your mother's passport. I am going to put it in the mail today.
- B: Did you find out anything?

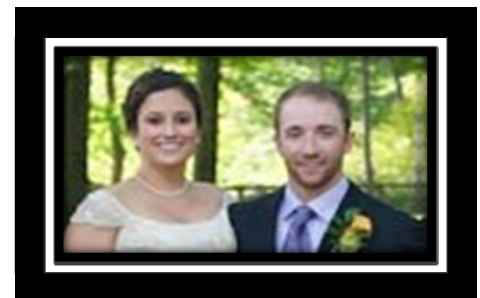
- J: I did not find out the town they were from, but it was interesting anyway. It showed the town they went through in Ukraine and the town they arrived at in the Austro-Hungarian Empire. It told how they were designated. They were called "*bourgeois*."
- B: Yes.



Chana Chaya's Passport

- J: It listed your mother as Khana Khaia Radovskaia. I translated it and I will send it to you. Its 100 years old, from 1911 to 2011. In any case, I got it and put a few footnotes in it. [A55-59 is the passport for Morris and Luba Radov, with a translation and annotation].
- B: You did a great job and my brother thanks you for your good wishes. He's coming along really good now.
- J: That's good.
- B: What about your mother, is she enjoying her travels?

- J: She is doing fine. We have a wedding this September for my son [Reid Levin, b. 1984, to Rachel Estrin] and so I think she is getting ready to come back up for that.
- B: That's good. That's nice. The kids grow up fast. I remember the day he was born.



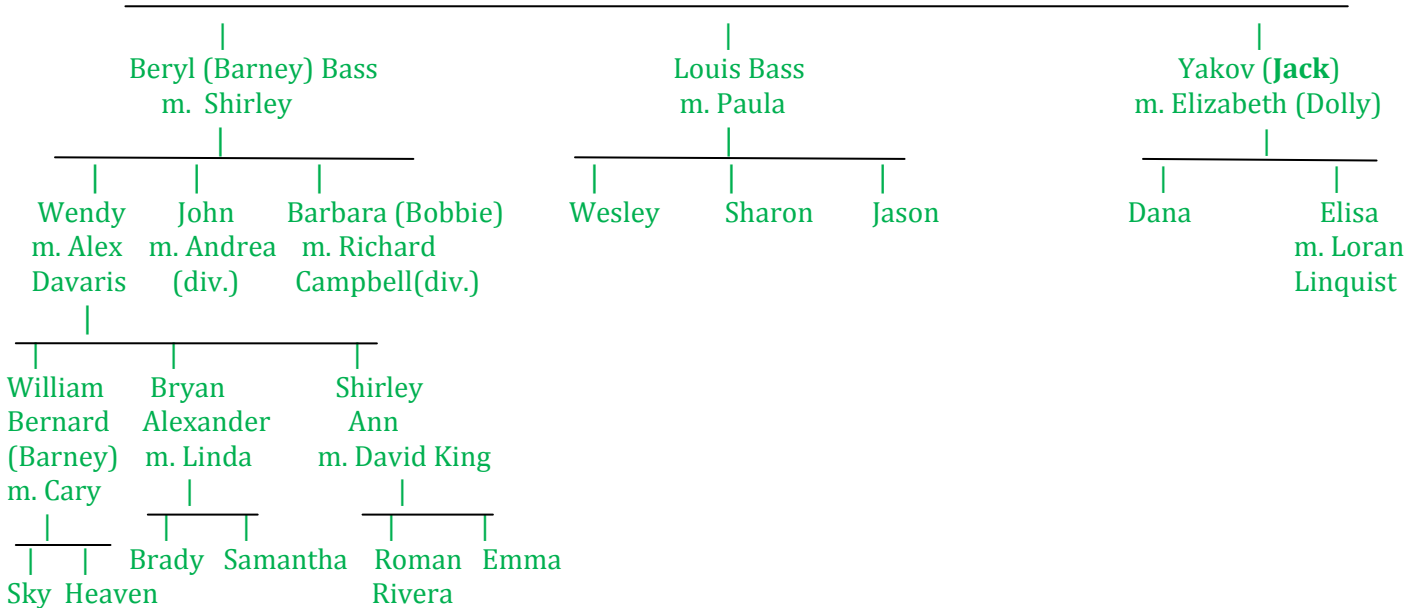
Rachel and Reid Levin - 2011

- J: He was born just before Luba died, and his briss was the day she actually passed away.

JACK THOMPSON

Jacob & Sheindel Radov

Cherna (Jenny) Radov
m. Velvel (Wolf) Bass
m. Barney Thompson



Jack Thompson; Conversation with Joel Levin – Monday, August 1, 2011

J: My daughter [Jenny Levin, b. 1987] is asking me questions, almost none of which I knew the answer. So, you do not know about the 1922 picture? [1922 Family Picture, A1-2].

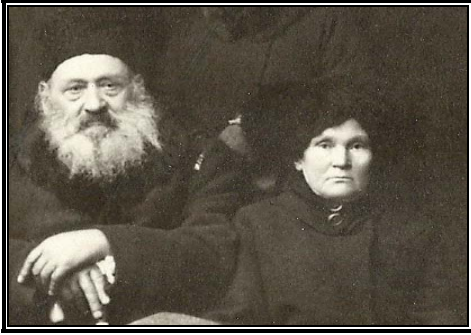
JT: No.

J: I will send it. I also have as an attachment Bertha's mother's passport [A34-52].

JT: Ida.



Ida (Chana Chaya) Halperin



Jacob and Sheindel Radov - 1922

J: Ida. Also my grandparents' passport [Morris P. and Luba Radov, A55-59], from when most of the family came in 1922, including your grandparents.

JT: I didn't think they ever came here.

J: They did.

JT: I never knew that.

J: My mother remembers that her grandmother [Sheindel] taught her to play cards. They would play cards by the hour, speaking Yiddish. My great-grandfather [Jacob] would have passed away a few years after he got here. Uncle Joe went to get the family, met up in Bucharest, and they took a ship from France. Esther and Peter were on that. Do you remember Esther and Peter?

JT: Oh sure. My Aunt Esther and Uncle Pasey. Sure. I was a kid. I was about 8 or 9 years old and Uncle Pasey died. I remember my cousin Lena saying that he was 70 and there was this thing in the house and "Hey, he lived to fish." That meant, he lived long enough. 70 was old age then.

J: Let me ask you a couple of things. Did you ever hear stories about life in Russia?

JT: Yes. These people were not educated. Let's face it. They lived in whatever. My mother [Cherna or Jenny] never knew who was shooting at her. It was either the Russians or Cossacks or the Reds or whatever. She did tell this story though. My older brother was two years old, Barney, when they came over here. Right?

J: Right.



Banks of Dnieper

JT: She tells this story that somehow they are on a boat or a rowboat or something like that, a small boat, they are trying to row from one country to another, and they were afraid that there would be patrols out there, so she kept her hand over the mouth of the two year old, my brother [Barney]. And they were ready to toss him into the water if they did come by and he made any noise or anything like that. [See Dnieper River, A89-92, on the river crossings of the Dnieper System]. Again, I recall that vividly.

J: Wow. When was your brother born?

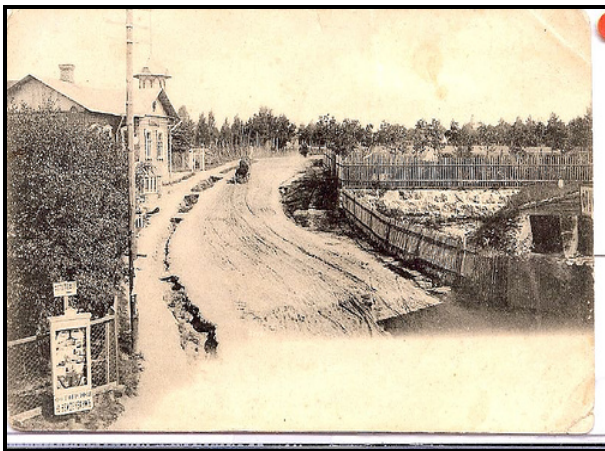
JT: About 1918, I believe.

J: So this is 1921. There is some memory that the family was caught up in the Bolshevik Revolution.

JT: Right.

J: What did your mother tell you about that?

JT: Somehow she had a diamond ring, and she had to give it or sell it so she could get a loaf of bread. Again, this is very vague and she really did not talk much about it, but when she did, would come out there and tell me some of these stories.



Small Shtetl Street

J: Did she say what village or *shtetl* [small town] she grew up in?

JT: Kiev, in Makarov [See Makarov and Babi Yar, A3-6].

J: Makarov. Outside of Kiev.

JT: I would imagine so. I talked to people who came over here recently and they have never heard of Makarov and they lived in Kiev.

J: There is information on Makarov I can send you. It was a largely Jewish *shtetl*, with some well-known pogroms there.

JT: We used to joke, and I never knew if this was true, my older brother [Barney] used to joke about the fact that "Hey Barney, show them where the Cossack hit you in the head with a sword." I don't know if that ever happened, but that was a running joke for a while. [See A62-65 for a take on such Humor, Cossacks and Pogroms].

J: What year was your mother born?

JT: 1900?

J: No. Earlier than that. [Cherna, b. 1895].

JT: She was married when she came here, because my brother was born in Russia. [In Berdychiv, see A117-120].

J: How did your parents meet?

JT: I don't know. My father died when he was 40 [he was likely older, d. 1938] and I was just a kid, 4 or 5 years old. I have very very little recollection of him.

J: Let's go back to Russia. Do you know about Lena being raped and her sister murdered?

JT: No. No.

J: You never heard that?

JT: No.



Wolf Bass



Emblem of the White Russians

J: Did you learn of Peter having a sword run through him during a pogrom?

JT: No, never.

J: By the way, you sound like my mother, my aunt and my uncle with these stories. Everybody heard one story and is shocked by the others because everybody, when they asked, were told by the Russian relatives, "We don't want to talk about it."

JT: Right. Again, my mother never knew who was shooting at her, White Russians, Red Russians. [See Humor, Cossacks & Pogroms, A63-66].

J: What did your father do for a living in Russia?

JT: I don't know what he did, but I know one thing. When he came here, he was an artisan, a jeweler. He would make jewelry. The reason I know that is, which I don't have, which my older brother had, is that he had a jewel or gem incrustated straight-razor and the cigarette lighter thing that he had actually made with his own hands out of silver. Now the thing that broke his heart is, this is the Depression. So they put him to work as a WPA with a shovel and the story is, that is what killed him. But, in fact, he actually died of rectal cancer.



Works Progress Administration



Silver cigarette holder (with original paper to roll his own cigarettes) made around 1917 by Wolf (Velvel) Bass to celebrate his engagement to Cherna Radovskaia (Jenny Radov).

J: Your father's name was Wolf Bass.



Jack Thompson - 1961

JT: Wolf Bass.

J: Where were you born, in what city?

JT: In Brooklyn, New York.

J: Yours parents were living in Brooklyn, not Erie. Do you know why they went to Brooklyn?

JT: Here is what happened. I was about 8 or 9 years old and they decided to go to Erie. I don't know if they did that because we did not have any relatives in Brooklyn or whatever. I never did find out the reason they moved to Erie. The bulk of the relatives lived there.

J: According to Bertha, some of the relatives returned to Erie from time to time because everybody put them up when times were tough economically.

JT: Let me talk about your mom, Clare and Mitzi. They had that house on 33rd Street.

J: 31st Street.



Brownsville Former Synagogue

JT: 31st Street. A *shtetl* would have been heaven compared to this slum we lived in, in Brownsville in Brooklyn. It was the home of Murder Incorporated and it was practically 99.9% Jewish, communist, very socialistic and whole thing over there and it was really a tough-ass neighborhood. We are talking tough. You wouldn't call the cops, you would call some of the hoods over there, the Jewish hoods, if you heard a strange noise or something. These were walk-ups, four flight walk-up tenements. So what would happen is, we would go to Erie for the summers. I think Lena, my mother and Murray, we would go down in the summer and stay at Uncle Morris's house with *Tanta* Luba.

J: Right.

JT: I remember there was that attic up there. We would stay there and that was heaven, with grass and all these types of things and the zoo was not too far and then there was the ice cream thing we went to. You know, we never had that stuff. We really enjoyed our summers over there.

J: That was in the 1930s.

JT: Yes. In the late 1930s.

J: What do you remember about Luba and Morris?

JT: I remember going to Erie and my mother was narcissistic. She said, "Luba hates me because I'm so beautiful." You know that type of thing.

J: Your mother said that?

JT: All the time. I remember Luba, when I was a kid whistling in the house, saying "You don't whistle in a Jewish house." She also had the most garish type of gold ashtrays and South Seas statues mounted on a colorful basket of fruit with their boobs sticking out. You want the truth, I'm telling you the truth.

J: Yes.

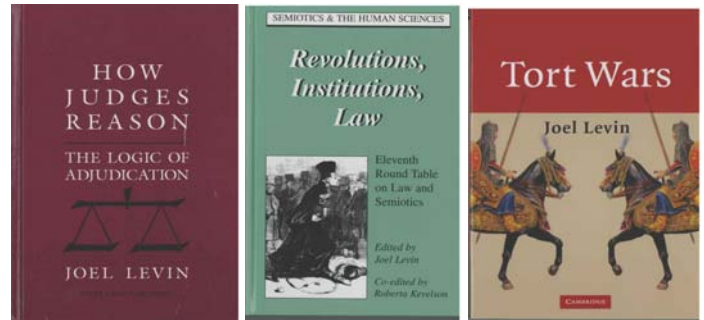


Cherna Bass

JT: I liked them. I liked all my relatives. I liked *Tanta* Cirka, Uncle Joe and, of course, *Tanta* Luba and Uncle Morris. I really did. What do you do Joel?

J: I'm a lawyer. I write a little and also run a small business [TAM Ltd.].

JT: You are a lawyer in Ohio?



Obscure works of philosophy of law by Joel Levin

J: In Ohio.

JT: Oh great. I'm a lawyer too.

J: I see that. I looked you up. Let me get back to the earlier generation. My mother [Clare] remembers your mother with a fair amount of affection.



Joel and Mary Jane Levin

JT: She was a very likeable person. She was a kind-hearted, big-hearted type of woman. But she was vain. "I am so beautiful." She meant it.

J: One thing my mother said, and I don't think it made the tape, was that she visited there once, not long after your mother learned to drive on the freeway, and she said that your mother was a very aggressive driver.

JT: That's another thing. She spent thousands of dollars in driving lessons with a stick shift. After learning it, if she saw someone on the street, she would honk the horn and say "Look at me."

J: There is something incongruous about people who started life in a *shtetl* and ended up driving on a California freeway. I think that's true for all of them. Let me go back. Did you know how they got out of Russia or about the ocean voyage?



Citizenship Certificate for Jennie Bass.

JT: One of the things, again is, I admired Uncle Joe and Uncle Morris. They somehow managed the financing.

J: Right. I have some information on how it was done, but do you have any idea?



Removing Street Car Tracks

JT: I admired them for that. I also admired them about the fact that, in Erie, they had a contract and dug up the streetcar track in the middle and along came the Second World War, which helped them.

J: What about your aunts?

JT: Tanta Luba was the type of person that, when my mother said something to Lena about her, Lena would say "Hey, what are you talking about? I remember when she was pregnant and she was standing over the bed making gin."

J: You mean my grandmother was?

JT: Yes. Luba.

J: Yes. Lena seems to have been a great favorite of everybody.

JT: Very kind-hearted, very giving, but a lot of misfortune in her life.



Morris and Luba Radov - 1921

J: Yes. A lot of misfortune. But you did not hear the story about her and her sister being in a pogrom?

JT: No. I never heard that.

J: Lena was raped and her sister was murdered.

JT: Oh my God. No, I never heard that. They never talked about it.

J: No. They would not talk about it, but some relatives had heard it. The same thing with Peter being stabbed.

JT: No. That I never knew.

J: Everybody had a kind word to say about Peter.

JT: Oh yeah. I hardly knew him, but I remember him at Grand Central Market. He would be behind the fruit stand selling fruit with his family.

J: He and Aunt Esther would work together?

JT: When Aunt Esther would come there, I would watch her and she would say the same thing. [In a Yiddish accent] "Someting, someting."



Sheindel Radov - 1888

J: Did you know anything about your grandmother?

JT: No. Nothing except for one thing. Are you ready for this? Apparently, she was a bit eccentric, shall we say. I did hear this from my mother and Lena verified it. They were talking about a pomegranate. They are eating a pomegranate and my grandmother said "I wonder how many seeds there are?" And she started to count them. You can't make anything like that up.

J: Do you remember hearing anything else about your grandparents in terms of how they were or what they did?

JT: No. But everyone seemed to be called Jack or something like that or Jacob was the name I guess.

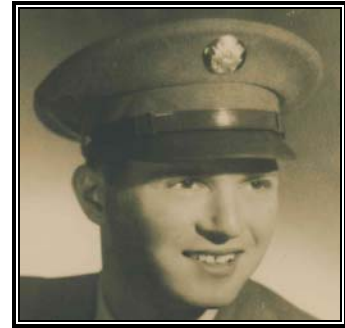
J: His name was Yakov.

JT: That's it. That's how I got my name and that is how Ida's kid, Jack, did and then Jack Radov [1931-2007]. Is Jack dead too, the one in San Diego?

J: Yes. Jackie died.

JT: What happened to him?

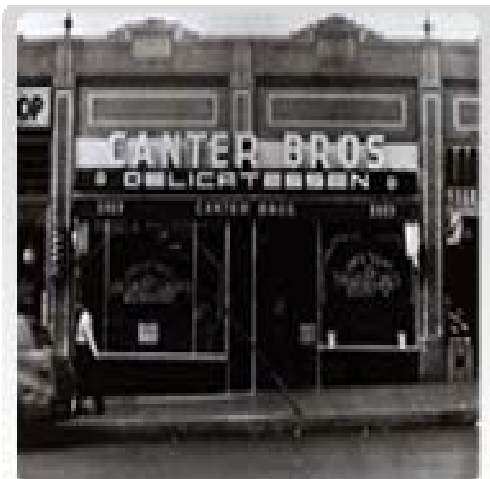
J: I don't know. I know that he died. His parents were cousins.



Jack Radov

JT: Yes, they were cousins. And when they got divorced, we were in Erie, and that was a big scandal. Sam was really a character. Oh, god, was he a character.

J: That's what everybody said.



Canter's Deli

JT: He was something. He was delusionary. He had this helmet. This welding helmet that he was going to make millions on. He was going to buy me a bar when I was still selling papers on the street where Esther used to sit waiting for the bus, with the other yuckna's over there. Fairfax, the Jewish area. So this is what happened. He came up to me and I'm selling papers there on the corner, and he would come up and say "In three weeks, I'll get the bar for you." I am about 14 or 15 years old. "By the way, can you loan me \$10, so I can go to Canter's and get something to eat?" He was really something.

J: Did you know any of the Radovskys in Boston from the first wife?

JT: First wife of who?

J: Your grandfather was married before.

JT: I have no idea about that.

J: When his wife died, he married his younger sister.

JT: I know nothing about the grandparents. I never heard of that.

J: Peter and your mother were half brother and sister.

JT: No. Really.

J: They were also first cousins, because your grandfather married sisters.

JT: I had no idea of that, Joel. Nothing at all.

J: Did you ever hear about the one son that they would not speak of?

JT: No.

J: The oldest son was not allowed to be spoken of because he left Judaism. You did not hear that?

JT: No.

J: Your grandmother's maiden name was Mandiberg. There are Mandiberg cousins in the United States who my mother and Mitzi knew, and that Bertha knew. Did you know any of them?



Bertha Blau - 1963

JT: None of them at all.

J: You are as much Radov as you are Mandiberg, because your grandmother's maiden name was Mandiberg.

JT: No knowledge of that at all. Never heard the name.

J: Walk me through your family.

JT: OK. There were three sons, Barney, Louis, and me. Louis and I did not get along.

J: You and Louis weren't speaking?

JT: No, and the same thing with Barney.

J: Who was Barney friendly with?

JT: None of us.

J: None of the three of you really got along.

JT: That is correct. Now keep in mind that Barney was 14 years older than me.

J: Barney was Barney Bass who kept the name and Louis kept the name Bass. You took the name of your stepfather.

JT: Yes, my stepfather. I am the only one who has a stepfather. My mother got married in LA and I was adopted by Barney Thompson.

J: You took the name Thompson.



Cherna and Barney Thompson

JT: The reason was because he had family over there and this way, I would inherit his wealth. Instead, I wound up supporting him in the old age home.

J: Barney was married to Shirley.

JT: Yes, to Shirley. They had 3 children, Wendy, Barbara and John.

J: And Wendy married Alex Davaris?



Barney, Bryan and Shirley Davaris

JT: Yes. He died too. He was older than her father, than my brother, when they got married.

J: They had three children. William, Bryan and Shirley.

JT: I don't know because, again, we are estranged.

J: What happened to Barbara? Did she marry?

JT: Barbara Ann Bass is living in Vegas as a registered nurse. She is single. She did marry one time, but it ended in a divorce. She never remarried.

J: She goes by the name Bobbie.

JT: Yes. Bobbie or Barbara Ann, Wendy Jane and John Gary. They also had a Christmas tree, that brother of mine. They called it a Chanukah bush. They were more Christian than Jewish, quite frankly, which killed my mother. She couldn't take it. It

really did not kill her. She just couldn't get over it. [Either the effectiveness of this practice or what Cherna would think now might be judged by Bobbie's present status as a self-described 'Bu-Ju,' or Jewish Buddhist].

J: My mother said your mother was "Cherna" in New York and "Jenny" in LA. That is how she remembers her.

JT: First of all, she was known by "Cherna," which was a Hebrew or Yiddish name, and by "Jenny." She would alternately use them both. It all depended on who she was with. If she was with her cronies over there, she was Cherna.

J: We always thought of her as *Tanta* Cherna. Nobody called her Jenny in Erie.

JT: Correct.

J: What happened to John? Did he marry?

JT: He married, but it was a short marriage. It didn't last long. I have not been in touch with him for years.

J: Do you know where John is living?

JT: No.



John Bass



Elizabeth and Jack Thompson - 1961

J: Louis was married to Paula and they had 3 kids, Leslie, Sharon and Jason. You were married to Elizabeth?

JT: Yes and she died.

J: I'm sorry.

JT: She died. It will be four years in October, of lung cancer. We were married for 46 years.

J: Dana and Elisa are your children?

JT: Right. Elisa is married to Loran Lindquist.

J: Where do they live?

JT: In Camarillo, in a place called Santa Rosa Valley. She has a horse ranch there. Over 5 acres. He's a plumber. They have no children.

J: When was she born?

JT: Elisa is 47, born in 1965.



Jack and Danny Thompson, and Elisa Linquist - 2011

J: What about Dana?

JT: We call him Danny. He is an attorney by the way.

J: Is it Dana or Dan?

JT: He goes by Dan. Unfortunately when he went into kindergarten, there was a girl called Dana. Don't ask.

J: Little boys are sensitive. When was he born?

JT: He was born in 1963.

J: Is he married?

JT: No, he has never been married. He's not gay by the way. You should see some of the girls he goes out with. *Mama Mia*.

J: Where does he live?

JT: He lives in the Westlake Village, CA. It's in Los Angeles County. It's 7 miles from Malibu.

J: OK. I lived in LA. I clerked in LA for a firm one summer, in 1975.

JT: Really.



Westlake Village, CA

J: That is my entire geographical knowledge, which gets me lost in a minute anywhere anytime I go back.

JT: Where did you live?

J: I worked for my uncle, Bill Levin, who had a firm in North Hollywood. They represented a lot of condo developers and S&Ls. It was a commercial shop. I lived in Santa Monica. Compared to Erie, Santa Monica was pretty extraordinary.

JT: Great.

J: It has been great talking to you. I was hoping you had more hardcore information, but *c'est la vie*.

JT: Unfortunately, we did not talk much. My mother and this type of thing. Very little. It is surprising with the thing about Uncle Pasey. You would think she would have said something. But nothing.

J: The great tragedy for my grandparents was losing their oldest daughter in the 1930s, Anna. You did not know about that.

JT: No. I did not know about that at all. By the way, did you talk to Jimmy Blau, the attorney?

J: No. He is a very bright guy. He was an incredible athlete.



Jimmy Blau

JT: Is that right? I remember Bertha. You might want to get this in there. Bertha called me up years ago and she said "Oh, my God, Jimmy." I said what is wrong with Jimmy. She said "He's dropping out of medical school and wants to be lawyer." Do you know that one?

J: No.

JT: The interesting guy was Bertha's brother, Jack. He was in the navy during WWII and apparently got a concussion or something and bounced up on the deck and had a silver plate in the back of his head. He was very strong. He worked out like a Schwarzenegger type. I was really impressed by him. The fact is that he died and I never knew what the hell happened.

J: I didn't know that.



Jack Halperin



Adele Danzker Radov 1944

JT: I remember Morris's [J.] wife [Adele]. She died recently, I understand.

J: I will tell you how recently. The stone setting is Sunday (August 7, 2011).

JT: I remember her from New York. She was such a beautiful girl. She was gorgeous and sang and everything.

J: Very talented. Her younger daughter, Fern, was on Broadway.

JT: She did a show in *Annie*. How is she doing?

J: Fine, but not on Broadway. She is divorced, has a son [Gabriel Rudin] and I think works in the city.



Sarah Radov and Fern Radov Rudin, niece and aunt musical theatre performers.

JT: Wow. She came out here and we went to see *Annie* at the Pantages over there and then I took her out to dinner and we talked. What a lovely girl, lovely girl.

J: Fern [Radov Rudin] is her name. We were at a Bar Mitzvah, for Morris' grandson [Lucas Radov] and my youngest one [Ava Levin, b. 1998] was not that old at that point. Fern and Ava were in the back room and Fern started singing and my daughter was completely mesmerized.

JT: She gets it from her mom. I remember when they got married, when she married Morris. She came out from New York. They dated and they got married.

J: How long did you live in Erie?

JT: About three years. From the age of 8 to 11, something like that. I was born in 1933.

J: Through WWII, were you in Erie?

JT: Yes. Then in 1945 or 1946, we went to California, to Los Angeles.

J: Did you know Muni's family?

JT: Sure. Muni and Sylvia. They were both communists. I don't know if you knew that.



Muni and Sylvia Carl

J: Right.



Seattle World's Fair

JT: And they almost made me one. I loved to talk with them. They were great. I was socially minded, and I found them very interesting. I liked them quite a bit. I visited them in Oregon at their home with my cousin Lena, my mother, Murray, Sheila and me. I drove all the way up there and it was nice. Another time, I went with my wife on the way to the World's Fair in Seattle. Stopped by their place.

J: What happened to Sheila?



Mona Sheila Bergida

JT: She died of lung cancer. That was about 6 or 7 years. She was a smoker. You could not stop her from smoking. I would go out to lunch with her and we would sit outside and she had a margarita and a cigarette. Cancer went to her brain and she was out of her mind for a while. Literally. It was pathetic. It made me stop smoking cigars.

J: That's not so bad.

JT: I was smoking cigars. After I saw her in the cancer ward of Cedar-Sinai and I saw the people walking like the living dead, I said "Screw that. No more cigars." I've been clean ever since.

J: Sheila had a son, Barry.

JT: Here's what happened. Sheila married this guy Bruce and he was a real character. He was in a chain gang one time down South, and I think she married him to get out

of the house. It was rather oppressive for her. Lena doted on Murray, while Harry, his name was "Schmuck." According to her "Schmuck, schmuck." Anyway, she wanted to get out of the house and she married this guy. He knocked her up and they had they guy Barry. Then she married Michael. They had two kids, Lindy and Marc, and Lindy, get this, died. It is the damnest thing. You want to hear this?

J: Yes.

JT: I get a call from Sheila and she said "As a matter of fact, Lindy is dead" and I said "What?" I rushed down to her place, I was in the [San Fernando] Valley and she was in LA and go over there and my gosh, there are cops all over the place and they said "Who are you?" and I said "The attorney of the family." I said what happened. By the way, she had played on the softball team at Fairfax High the day before and she was fine. She didn't do drugs or anything, believe me.

J: How old was she when she died?

JT: 15. So what happened, in effect, is that they found her on the bed and the oldest tried to wake her up and she was half on the bed and half off and her panties were only on. So they figured she did not want to go to school and they tried to wake her up and she is dead. Anyway, they go through all this stuff and there was an autopsy. I got the autopsy report. Indeterminate. They did not know what killed her. There were no drugs or anything like that. The only thing was she was taking these diet pills and that might have done something. But we don't know. It was one hell of a funeral. Let me tell you. Uncle Morris came out here.

J: This was a long time ago then.

JT: Mona Sheila was married to this guy, Mike Bergida.

J: How old is Marc?



Marc Bergida

JT: Marc is probably the age of my daughter. 43 or 44.

J: What does he do?

JT: That's a good question. He lives in Vegas. He doesn't work, but he makes his money – are you ready for this – on slot machines. You heard me right. He is a big gambler. Slot machines. I talk with him.

J: His last name is Bergida.

JT: That is the second marriage.

J: What about Barry? What happened to him?

JT: Barry is another winner.

J: I remember him as a kid being pretty rambunctious.

JT: He works in these clubs, in the casinos over here, as a dealer. Poker is legal out here. He lives in Arizona and let me tell you why. He works as a dealer in some Indian casino over there in Arizona someplace.



J: Did he ever get married?

JT: He gets married and she is really nice, Debbie. She's from Grand Rapids and the marriage is there. He marries her. She is a registered nurse at a major hospital here, a head nurse and they have two kids. So what he does is, all of a sudden, he takes up with this other gal and they got divorced and there you go.

J: What are the names of his kids?

JT: Samantha and I don't remember the boy and I am his godfather. Where is my head?

J: When was Samantha born?

JT: Samantha just started college. She is around 20 now. Aaron is the boy's name. He just graduated high school. He is going to be 18.

J: I will call you again. Do you want me to send you the Radov history?



Mitzi Radov Kerness - 2010

JT: I would love it. Like I said, if I recall anything else, obviously I have your email and I can email or call you back on that.

J: Yeah. That would be good. I talked to Mitzi for a few minutes and then, the next time we spoke, she remembered all these other things.

JT: How old is Mitzi?



Barney Halperin

J: Mitzi turned 80 this year and Clare is 82, Barney is 88. They're all in relatively good health.

JT: That's good and Barney Halperin is still around?

J: He's not in good health. [He passed away 6 weeks after this conversation]. He lives in Lake Worth, Florida and so does Bertha. They live near each other. And among the cousins, Joe's kids are gone.

JT: Oh yeah.

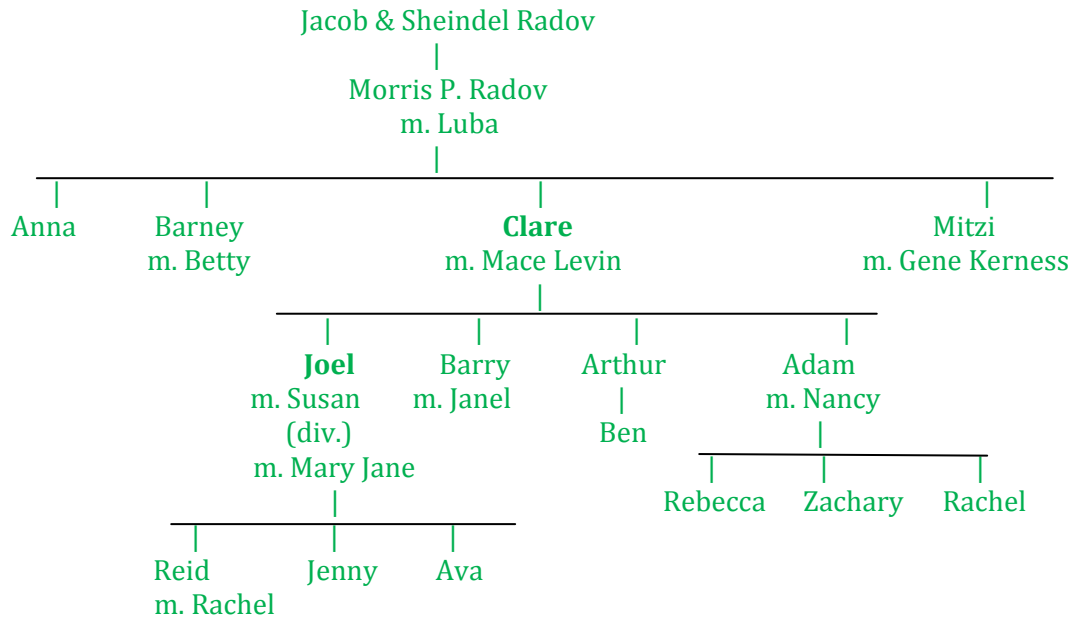
J: Most of that generation is gone. You are one of the people I wanted to talk to. You may be the youngest of the original grandchildren.

JT: I am 77.

J: You should at least see the picture. [See 1922 Family Picture, A1-2]. It gives new meaning to basic black coming to New York. There are about 20 people and your grandmother looks particularly stern. She is really a candidate for American Gothic. Her husband next to her was born in the 1840s.

JT: Wow. In the 1840s. My God.

CLARE RADOV LEVIN



Clare Radov Levin; Conversation with Joel Levin - Friday, July 15, 2011



Sheindel Bossie Mandiberg
Radov - 1922

- J: What do you remember about your grandmother [Sheindel Bossie Mandiberg Radov]?
- C: She was very nice to me. She taught me to play Casino.
- J: How did you speak to her, in Russian or Yiddish?
- C: Yiddish, no English, only broken Yiddish.

J: Did she ever tell you anything about Russia?

C: Nothing, nothing. She just treated the two of us like little dolls.

J: You and Mitzi [Radov Kerness]?

C: Yes.

J: But she was not quite so nice to your mother [Luba Radov].



Mitzi and Clare Radov

C: Oh, she was mean to my mother.

J: How was she mean?

C: My mother bought her a dress and I think I may have witnessed it. She saw the dress and she threw it on the floor and my father [Morris P. Radov] saw it too. I think that was the last straw and he kicked his mother out.

J: She was living with you?



143 E. 31st St., Erie

C: She was living with us.

J: This was on [143 E.] 31st Street?

C: On 31st Street.

J: No one else was living with you other than Barney [R. Radov] and your sisters and your parents.

C: Yes. We only had a 2-bedroom house.

J: So where did everybody sleep?

C: We slept in the living room and I think probably Mitzi slept in the crib for a long time. Three people could sleep in the one bedroom.

J: Did you ever hear anything about life in Russia?

C: I heard from my mother. She had 3 sisters. There may have been two. The girls had Russian names and the boys were given Biblical names.



Mitzi Radov - 1936

J: Do you remember their names?

C: There was Sonya and Olga. There may have been another one, but I don't remember. [See Sonya's Tale, A134-143].

J: How many brothers did she have?

C: I don't know. I only know the name of one was Avraham. [In fact, the six children, in order, were Olga, Buni, Luba, Sonya, Avram, and Misha. Their parents' names were Bernard and Gertrude Levine, with Gertrude's maiden name Cohen].

J: Was he the one that introduced your mother and your father [Morris Radov]?

C: She never said.

J: But how did that happen? Your father was in the Army.

C: I think her brother was also in the Army. He brought my father home. He met my mother and that was it.

J: Do you know where they each lived, what village?



Shtetl Town Scene

C: No. There was another *shtetl*. [Yiddish diminutive of *shtot* or town, meaning little or small town]. They weren't allowed to live in Kiev. [A common misapprehension. In fact, Jews had been in Kiev, off and on, for more than a thousand years, including family members. See 19th Century Kiev Synagogues, A75-76].

J: It was one *shtetl* or another.

C: Yes.

J: Luba had an unusual look. Did anyone ever comment on that kind of exotic look?

C: Yes. When we got to Erie, people thought she was an actress. But I think her whole family were that way. My mother was beautiful and so were her sisters.

J: But it wasn't only that. She also had a certain look. That kind of flashy-eyed look that wasn't typical.

C: I have no idea.

J: Did you ever hear anywhere that the family was part Khazar [See Khazars, A53-54]?

C: Partly what?

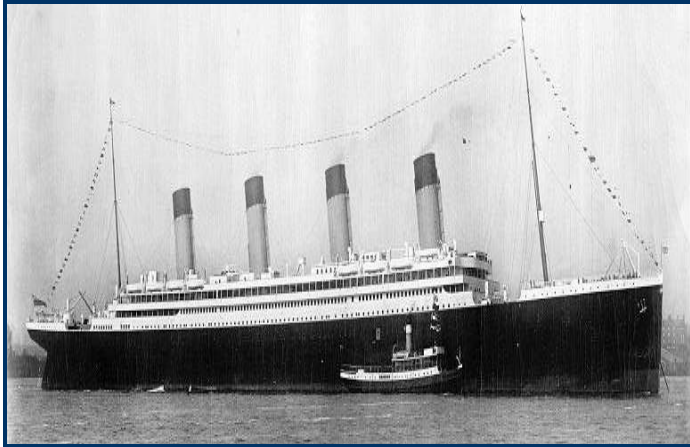
J: Khazar.

C: No. I have no idea.

J: They were a Turkish tribe that converted to Judaism in about 800. They lived in and near Kiev and had flashy eyes, an exotic look, and didn't speak Yiddish.

C: You're not going to believe it, but that was before my time. I do know a story about my mother.

J: What?



R.M.S. Olympic

C: Anna was born on the ship. The captain came up to my mother and said, "If you name your daughter after the ship, I will give you free passage." My mother said no, she wouldn't name her that. The ship was the Olympic and she wouldn't do that. [See Cherbourg & The R.M.S. Olympic, A77-80].

J: What was Anna's middle name?

C: I don't know. I know I didn't have one, so I have no idea.

J: Your grandmother's maiden name was Mandiberg?

C: The first I knew about that was when I read it from Bertha. You know, she died when I was so young and so she just wasn't part of my life.

J: But you knew the Mandibergs, although you never knew how they were related?

C: Right. I knew the ones in Detroit.

J: Who did you know in Detroit?

C: Just Jack and Helen. I met them when I went there for the first time.

J: When was that?

C: I think Mitzi and I were on a buying trip or something.



Clare Radov Levin - 1989

J: Oh, for the store [The Compleat Kitchen, a gourmet cooking store in Erie owned by Clare and Mitzi]. This was in the 1970s.

C: Yes. They had a summer house and we stayed at the summer house and froze.

J: Did you meet anybody else there?

C: No.

J: Bertha said she had visited them occasionally, much earlier. You don't remember any of that?

C: No. My father being so much younger, he wasn't as involved with all the rest of the family.

J: Barney remembers a picture of Luba's family.

C: Yes, but I don't know where it is.

J: Your mother said you looked like one of her sisters?

C: Yes.



Luba Radov

J: Do you know which one?

C: [Chuckle]. I have no idea.

J: Do you know what Luba's parents did in Russia?

C: I think they had a small store, probably a grocery store.

J: Anything else?

- C: No. That's all I knew. She said she only had one pair of shoes.
- J: You said she didn't know Yiddish when she was young.
- C: No, they spoke only Russian.
- J: You don't know how well she spoke Ukrainian?
- C: No. I don't know.
- J: She admitted to me once, obviously decades later, that she knew some Ukrainian, but would deny it.
- C: Oh.
- J: She didn't like the Ukrainians, she only liked the Russians, although I don't know how much she liked them.
- C: I know one time there was a Russian troupe. I think Jewish Federation sponsored it. We went and my mother spoke Russian to the cast.
- J: Right. So your grandmother was living with you?
- C: Yes.
- J: Then your father asked her to leave and she moved in with Peter, Pasey?
- C: Pasey and Esther.
- J: But Pasey wasn't her son.
- C: No, he was her nephew.
- J: Yes. Her nephew and her stepson both, and he was your uncle, your step-uncle and your cousin.
- C: Yes, but he was a very sweet man. He had a stall in the market. Mitzi and I sometimes would be dropped off and he would let us wait on customers. We were really little and we just loved it.
- J: Was this on 12th Street or before that?



Esther and Peter Radov - 1922

- C: I don't know if it was on 12th Street or if it was at the other market. There were two and I don't remember.
- J: Did Esther also work at the stall?
- C: Yes.
- J: Where did they live?
- C: They lived on 17th Street.
- J: She had come from money in Russia, right?
- C: Yes. Everybody told me she had her own dressmaker. That was apparently the big thing. They didn't have department stores, so your dressmaker would make you your wardrobe.
- J: Had you heard that Peter had been married before and was a widower?
- C: I didn't know that.
- J: And they had no children.
- C: No, but I know that Peter stuttered. The reason he stuttered was that he was walking in the village and some Cossacks stopped him and they put him up against a tree. Then, they ran a sword through his thumb.
- J: Did that cause him anxiety and the stutter?
- C: Yes. He thought they were going to kill him.
- J: How old was he?
- C: I don't know.
- J: So his stepmother or aunt lived with him after you?
- C: Yes.
- J: Okay.
- C: The one thing – they all took care of one another, whether they liked them or not, they took care of them.



Russian Cossack Sword. Type used in Kiev Pogroms of 1919, likely to stab Peter Radov.

J: I thought Peter looked like your father quite a bit.

C: I thought he was very good looking.

J: [Laugh]. Your father was good looking too, then?

C: You bet.

J: Okay. So what about Peter's sister? He had a brother and a sister apparently. The brother never left Russia. The sisters came to Boston and took the name Radovsky and they were the Radovskys and then Cohens.

C: I have no idea. I knew Bernie Cohen.

J: Who was Bernie?



Bernie Cohen

C: He was the son of one of the sisters. [Ida, Jenny, Minnie and Betty Radovsky].

J: How did you know him?

C: We went to school together.

J: At the University of Oklahoma.

C: Yes.

J: Did you then lose track of him?

C: He died. He was young. He was married. I remember he visited us when we lived on Oxford Street [in Erie]. But we really didn't know him well.

J: Did he have any children?

C: I don't know. I don't think so, but I don't know. He was very bright.

J: Apparently Sandy [Cohen] is very bright, according to Betty and Barney and to Bertha. But you don't really know him.

C: Do you want to hear a story about *Tanta* Cirka?

J: [Laugh]. Sure, interrupt my flow. Tell me.



Sarah (Cirka) Radov - 1950

C: Well, when they were in the bootleg business, they had a big garage and I guess that's where they stored stuff or made stuff, I don't know. *Tanta* Cirka was there in the garage. They got a tip that they were going to be raided, so they locked up the garage so that when the police came, they never looked in the garage. But they forgot to unlock it and so she stayed there overnight.

J: They locked her in. Where was this, on 21st?

C: 21st Street.

J: How did it happen that there were 2 houses next to each other that the brothers [Joe and Morris P.] owned on 37th?

C: We had the house and then eventually Joe and Cirka decided to build next door.



Sam Radov - 1925

J: Their oldest son was Sam.

C: Yes.

J: Was Sam something of a black sheep?

C: Yes.

J: Why?

C: I don't know. He just was. At one time, he was a policeman and one time I remember there was something about Uncle Joe putting Sam in charge of an apple warehouse. You would store apples and sell them the next season. Sam somehow got involved with Mr. Spector and Mr. Spector swindled the apples from Sam. I guess it was easy to do.

J: Then Sam moved out of town?

C: Yes, his brothers got him out of town and supported him. This was after he was divorced. Betty wanted to get a divorce earlier, but my father said to wait until after Jackie [their son] had his Bar Mitzvah.

J: Your father originally advised Betty not to marry Sam?

C: Not to marry him in the first place.

J: Did your father help support them?

C: I would imagine, but I don't know that for sure, but it would surprise me if he didn't.

J: He took over supporting everybody later. Joe did it early and then your father did it later. That seems like what happened.

C: Yes. Yes. And my father always made sure he took care of Joe.

J: Was Joe in the business?

C: He was out on the road for my father.

J: But he had his best days financially long before that.

C: Long before that. Yes.

J: He also gave you marriage advice, right?

C: He told me not to marry your father [Mace Levin].

J: Why?



Mace and Clare Levin 55 years into a marriage Joe predicted would be short-lived.



Nancy and Adam Levin

C: He belonged to the Reform Temple [Anshe Chesed]. [Laughs]. [That was the, more or less, sanitized version. As recounted during the eulogy of Clare's husband, Mace, theirs was a mixed marriage: one between a Lithuanian and a Ukrainian Jew. Joe Radov counseled against such a marriage, no doubt aware that Litvaks were known to be cold, austere, without artistic or musical ability, political, socialist, overly intellectual and could hardly sing or dance. The Litvak counter that Ukrainians Jews were nothing more than superstitious card players and party lovers would not have seemed, to Zusie at least, much of a comeback].

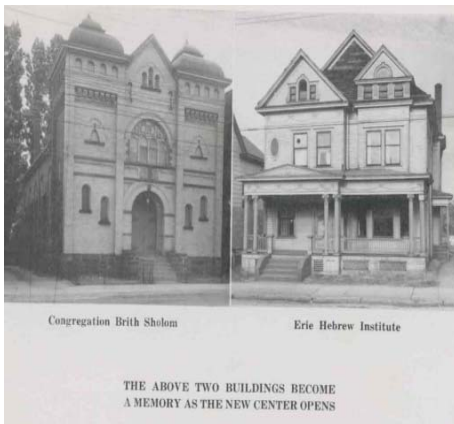
J: There were a number of *shuls* [Yiddish, literally for school, but commonly meant as synagogue, the Greek, not Hebrew, word for assembly] when you were growing up in Erie, right?

C: There were three. There was the Polish one, the Russian one, and then the German Reform one. Then, as the people became more acclimated and inter-married, those things didn't matter.

J: So the one on 17th, what was that?



Barney R. and Betty Radov, Gene and Mitzi Kerness, Morris and Luba Radov, Drew Pearson (columnist), Clare and Mace Levin - 1960



Old Shul in Erie

C: That was the Polish one. That was across from Katz's butcher shop.

J: Where did the family go?

C: We always went to 8th Street, the Russian one. But then when they built the Jewish Center, [*Brith Sholom*], the two joined together.

J: Right, but the one on 17th lasted for a while.

C: Yes, it did.

J: Because I remember being taken there. I didn't like it much, but I do remember your father taking me. I think I was the only one who spoke even reasonable English that was there.

C: [Laughing]. Probably. Probably.

J: Do you know the name of your grandfather's first wife?

C: No. I didn't know of a first wife until I was grown.

J: What did you call your grandmother?

C: I don't know. Probably Bubby.

J: Then Menya was the oldest?

C: Yes.

J: What do you remember about her?

C: Not much because she died. Her children were my parents' age.

J: Minnie, Lena, Beryl and Muni.

C: Right.

J: Did they grow up in Erie?

C: I think so.

J: I think they did. So Minnie moved to Chicago?
What was Minnie like?

C: I always liked her. Very nice.

J: What about Lena? Everybody liked Lena.

C: Yes. I remember Beryl did carpentry work.



Morry and Minnie Sakol

J: Where did he move to? Did he move to LA?

C: I don't know where he moved. He moved out of town, he married a woman and then they got a divorce and Muni moved to the West Coast, so I only saw him on state occasions.

J: What were they like when you were younger?

C: I don't remember them. They were busy getting their own lives together and they didn't have time for two little girls.



Sandra and Gus Radov

J: But you did know Cirka and Joe's kids growing up. So Sam was sort of the black sheep and then there was Gus. What do you remember about Gus?

C: Very nice, always. Always nice. Married late.

J: He kept to himself, though, didn't he?



Academy High School in Erie

- C: No. He was close to the family.
- J: Barney and Morris [J.]: you knew them well when they were younger.
- C: Barney lived with his parents until he got married and so he lived next door. He would often drive me to school, to Academy.
- J: Was he in the business right from the beginning, the scrap business working for your father?

C: He went to college and I think then he had to drop out because of finances. I vaguely remember he wanted to be a doctor. I think he went to Temple University. Later he lived with his parents. Morris was much more ambitious, so my father set Morris up in business.

J: He lived next door to you, then, growing up?

C: No, growing up, they all lived on 21st Street.

J: Oh, I see. What about Ida, Chana Chaya? What did you call her?

C: Aunt Ida.

J: You didn't call her Chana Chaya?

C: No.

J: Did anybody call her that?

C: No. I never heard that before.

J: Okay. What was she like?

C: Joel, everybody was nice to me.

J: Okay. Obviously Cherna moved out – she didn't stay in Erie, did she?

C: No, Cherna was something. She lived in New York and she would come and visit. Sometimes she stayed with us.

J: Did she get married later?

C: Yes. Her husband died and then she married a guy [Barney Thompson] who was a baker.

J: And her first husband?

C: Wolf. Bass was her first husband.

J: Then she moved to L.A.?

C: She moved to L.A. and all her kids moved to L.A. with her.



Cherna and Barney Thompson



Shirley and Barney Bass

J: How many kids did she have?

C: Three. Three sons.

J: Jack, Louis and Barney.

C: Yes.

J: What happened to them?

C: She was very close to Barney. She wasn't always the nicest of people. I imagine she was not a great mother-in-law. Then there was Louie. Louie looked just like her husband and he was married to Paula. I used to see them when we used to go to visit Bill and Elaine [Levin, in L.A.]. Then there was Jackie. Jackie was much, much younger than his brothers.

J: What happened to him?

C: I think he was an accountant and is still alive.

J: So Barney and Bertha both remember that all the early Erie gatherings were at Joe and Cirka's. Is that what you remember?

C: Yes. That's right.

J: So what did you do there?



Cirka and Joe Radov - 1925

- C: I don't remember being there except for Passover. I don't think we went there. My mother wouldn't go there all the time, plus *Tanta* Cirka had her own family. She had a sister and two brothers there and they all had families.
- J: So your family stayed apart a bit.
- C: A little bit.
- J: At some point, a lot of the events were at your parents' house.
- C: I guess so. I don't remember. Not when we moved on 31st Street. There wasn't that much room.
- J: What about later, on 37th Street?
- C: Yes. Then there were. Dad's [Morris P. Radov's] siblings were all closer in age and then dad was much younger.
- J: Right. Do you recall anything about the fact that there was an early time of bootlegging and gambling?
- C: No. I wouldn't have known any of that.
- J: You don't know anything about the priest?
- C: No. I didn't know that. That was a shock to me.
- J: That was just one of those things – was it even mentioned? Because Bertha said, in her family, he was actually referred to as the one who wasn't spoken of.
- C: No. I don't think he had much of a relationship with my father.
- J: He might not have had any.
- C: Right. I know in the beginning there were letters back and forth to my mother's family.
- J: From Russia? What happened to those?
- C: I don't know and then that stopped. I don't know when it began. I know that it made my mother very sad.
- J: Did they continue after you were born?
- C: Yes. I remember.

J: So you remember getting them in the 1930s, and they would have been in Russian, obviously.

C: Yes.

J: And then would she [Luba] would write back?

C: I think my father wrote back.

J: For your mother? Why?

C: I don't know. I just have that feeling.

J: Did he send money back?

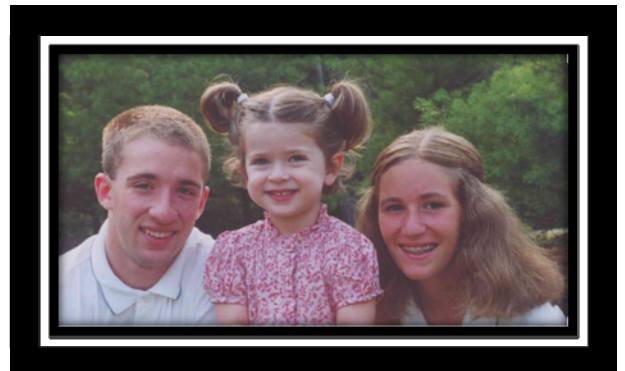
C: I don't know. I wouldn't doubt it, but I can't say for sure.

J: She wouldn't talk about her family even if people asked?

C: Not many people asked. If I asked, I knew that would bring tears to her. So I didn't ask.



Rachel, Becca, and Zack Levin, 3 of Clare's grandchildren.



Reid, Ava, and Jenny Levin, 3 more of Clare's grandchildren.



Anna Radov

J: She didn't want to discuss Anna either.

C: Anna. No, never. Never. There was a picture of Anna. Mitzi hung it up and my mother was okay with that.

J: Mitzi hung it up in her house?

C: In her den, remember?

J: Yes. I remember, but not while she was living at home, not at your parent's house.

C: No. That's right. All the aunts were very nice to me. They favored me.

J: You were the favorite?

C: Yes.

J: Because you were younger or just your natural charm?

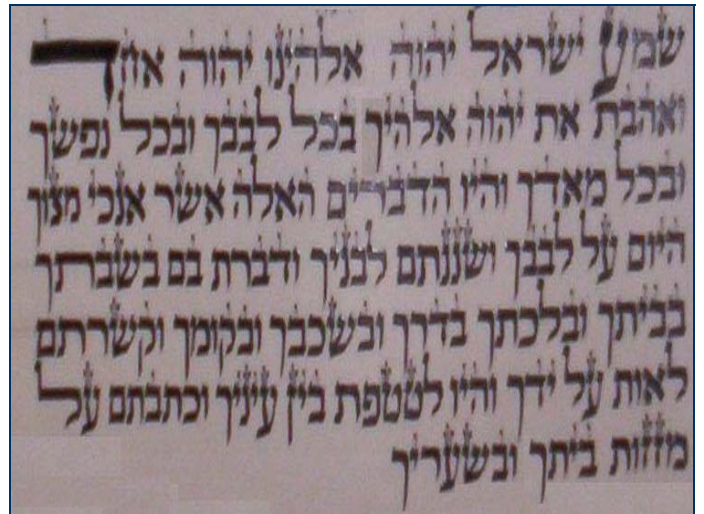
C: [Laughing]. Well it was between Mitzi and me and I was the charm. I remember my Aunt Jenny, *Tanta* Cherna, knit me a beautiful red coat and my mother said to her, "What about Mitzi?" And my aunt said, "When Clare outgrows it, Mitzi can have it." Mitzi and I used to laugh about that.

J: Did you ever call her Jenny? I only ever remember you calling her Cherna.

C: When she got to California, she became very Americanized. I remember she drove.

J: Your mother never drove.

C: No, but Cherna drove. She was such a terrible driver. Dad and I were in the back seat saying the *Sh'ma*. We were scared to death. She was in the right-hand lane and you know the thoroughways are four lanes at least, and from the right-hand lane she made a left-hand turn across. [Sigh]. I'm lucky I'm still alive.



First instance of the *Sh'ma* in the Torah.

J: What else do you remember about your aunts and uncles other than that?

C: Not much. They were nice. We were by far the youngest of any of them, my grandparent's grandchildren. My *Tanta* Cirka's nieces had a beauty parlor out of their house and my aunt –

J: You mean on the other side?

C: On the other side. On the Kadowitz side. My aunt would take me there once in a while to get my hair done because she wanted to give business to her nieces. You know I really don't know anything else. I would love to.

J: Okay.



1900 Kiev

C: You know that, when dad and I went to Russia with the Chautauqua group, I had such terrible feelings of dread going back to Russia.

J: When I worked in Russia the first time [for U.S.I.A., then an independent federal agency, now part of the State Department, in 1995], I visited Kiev. Did you go there?

C: No, I didn't. All I know is I wasn't alone. When we got on the plane to come home, we all burst into clapping, we were so happy to leave Russia.

J: Right. You never figured out how Joe and Sylvia Radov were related, if they were.

C: No. They pronounced it differently. I think they must have just been cousins.

J: So there might have been Radov cousins in Kiev. Joe's family was from Kiev, right.

C: Yes. Joe looks like the family.

J: So the Radov's could have had cousins in Kiev named Radov or Radovsky?

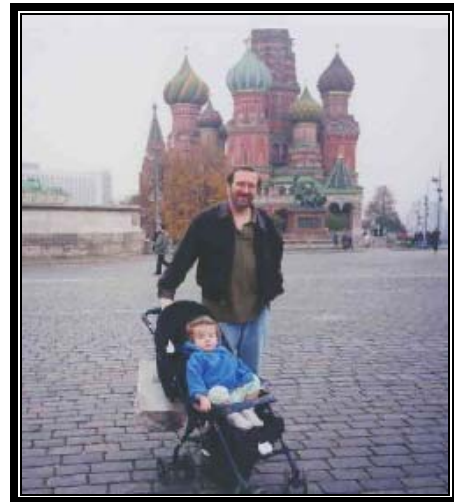
C: Yes. I wouldn't know.

J: Apparently, nobody knew. Who was the person you said was the bigamist?

C: A bigamist?

J: Yes. You said somebody married two different women.

C: I don't remember that. If they married two different women, one was either divorced or dead.



Joel (working in) and Ava (visiting) Russia in 2002.
Ava, unlike her grandmother, as is evident in the photo, experienced no visible dread upon returning to the land that once terrorized her family.

J: No, I thought you said one of your cousins.

C: No. I don't remember that [Mona Sheila].

J: The story about Lena having a sister who was killed earlier, had you heard that?

C: I never even heard that. I never knew that Lena was raped. The reason Lena married Harry is Cherna and Lena went down to the dock [in NYC] when the immigrants were coming in and picked out Harry and poor Harry didn't know what was happening and the next thing you know, he was married to Lena.



Harry and Lena Smith - 1930

J: How did that marriage work?

C: [Laughing]. Well, all I know is that they had a boarder and she and the boarder had an affair.

J: Lena and the boarder?

C: Yes.

J: Who was that?

C: I don't know who he was.

J: Then Lena had how many kids? She lost a child, right?

C: She lost a child, but I didn't know about it. She had Murray, who died at the car wash, and Sheila. Oh, I know the bigamist story now. Sheila got married and we all went to the wedding and then they found out that he had another wife, Sheila's husband.

J: So he wasn't really married to Sheila.

C: She got a divorce or an annulment or something, but she had a child with him, Barry.

J: Did Sheila ever go by the name Mona?

C: That's her name, Mona Sheila.

J: I think her husband was Mike. Was that their only child?



Mona Sheila Bergida

- C: No. She had a daughter, Linda, who, as a teenager, they went into the bedroom to wake her up and she was dead. They don't know what happened. I don't know if Sheila had another child or not.
- J: What happened to Barry?
- C: I don't know. He was a rough kid.
- J: Actually, I remember that as a kid. I remember that *Tanta* Cherna always called him a hooligan.
- C: [Laughing]. And he probably was.
- J: When I was young, I had never heard the name hooligan before I went there at Cherna's. Were you given the same name in Yiddish or Hebrew as other women in the family?
- C: I was named Chaya.
- J: So Chaya. Ida was Chana Chaya.
- C: But they all called her Chika.
- J: But if you look at her name on her passport, she is Chana Chaya Radovskaia [A34-52].
- C: She was Chika and Jenny was someone else.
- J: Cherna.
- C: Cherna. Yes. Sometimes my mother would call me *vilda chaya*, which means wild animal. [It also connotes in Yiddish an unruly child, and is a pun on the name Chaya]. But that's just when she was mad at me.
- J: Was there anybody named Jenny besides Cherna?
- C: No. Not that I know of. [In fact, her Uncle Beryl, or Bernard, son by her grandfather's first wife, had a daughter Jenny].

J: Not until your granddaughter [Jennifer Ann Levin].

C: Yes.

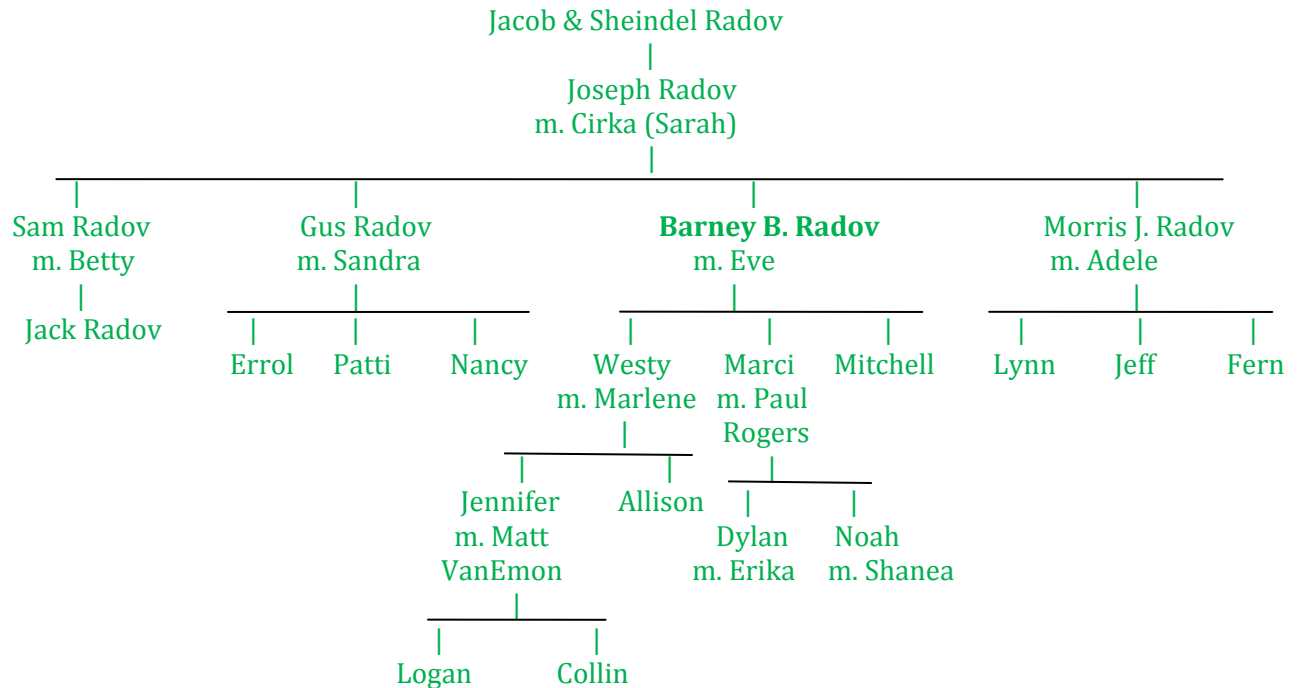
J: Okay. Well that's it for the moment. You're off the hook.

C: Turn it off and I'll tell you a joke.



Jenny Levin - 2011

BARNEY B. RADOV



Conversation between Barney B. Radov [1913-2001] and Shirley Brown [the brother and the sister-in-law of the two defendants in *U.S. v. Radov*, A28-30] at the home of Barney's daughter, Marci Radov Rogers, August 30, 1995.

S: How far back can you go?



Makarov Cemetery

B: I can go back to my grandparents.

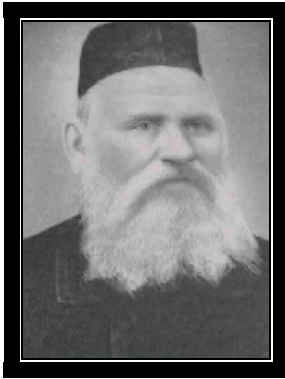
S: And they were?

B: Everybody came from Russia, a small town called Makarov [See Makarov and Babi Yar, A3-6], right outside of Kiev.

S: The Ukraine.

B: But that was still Russia as far as they concerned. My grandfather was an educated man. In the town, he was *chazan rabinner* [the rabbi who leads the chanting of the Torah]. He was the Recorder of Deeds. Everybody that ever got a letter came to him to have it read.

S: Oh, really.



Jacob Radov



Bernard Radov

B: Yes. So he was a big shot. As far as I know, my grandfather married a woman and they had 3 children. I don't know what happened to the oldest. I do know the youngest one [actually, the second] died at the age of 26 while my grandfather was carting a horse and wagon for the bigger city where he could get treatment for whatever it was. All the Barneys and the Radovs and all their *mishpocha* [Yiddish for 'family'] are named after him. We have Barneys like dogs. [Such naming is an Ashkenazi tradition. See Ashkenazi Jews, A121-126].

S: Okay.



Barney B. Radov



Barney Halperin



Bertha Blau



Beryl (Bill) Carol



Bernard Rabelsky



Barney R. Radov



Barney Bass



Bernard Cohen



Barbara (Sakol) Herman



Barre Sakol



Barry Levin



Barbara Radov



Barry Kerness



Barry Bergida



Barbara Kreiss Santiano



Barbara Bass



Barney Davaris



Bryan Davaris

Family with Bernard (Beryl) cognates. (Those, like Barbara Cohen and Barney Thompson who married in, no doubt so as to keep the numbers high, are not included, nor is Luba Radov's father, Bernard Levine).

- B: The first wife died *in kimpet*, giving birth. [Yiddish more fully is *zi ligt in kimpet* meaning "she is lying giving birth"]. As was the Jewish custom, although I've never seen it done, the Jewish custom has it that if a husband and wife are married, and the woman dies and had children, it was his duty to see if she had a younger sister. Then he would go to the younger sister and ask if she would marry him to help him take care of the children. She did. [See Familiarity, Theology & the World, A108-111 on the ties of Jewish customs]. They had 5 or 6 children together and that's how come we have all these happenings now [he was in Erie for his granddaughter's *Bat Mitzvah*], children like Ida Halperin, Jenny Bass, Menya Carl, Raful Carl, Beryl Carl, Laika, Lena, Smith. These are part of the Menya Carols. She was my father's sister. All these are brothers and sisters [or nephews or nieces] of my father.

S: I see.

B: Including Morris [P.] Radov.

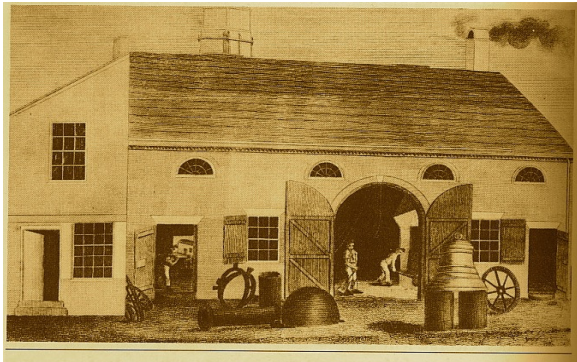
S: He was your father's brother?

B: Yes. He was the youngest brother. My father was probably the oldest of the second marriage [actually second, to Menya].



Barney's grandchildren Dylan and Noah (Rogers) and Jennifer Radov VanEmon

S: What made him leave Makarov [Makarov and Babi Yar, A4-6]?



Traditional Brass Foundry

B: He was born, I think, in 1884. My father, before he got married, was an apprentice, a journeyman apprentice. He signed up for 3 years.

S: Apprentice for what?

B: To a brass foundry. It was owned by a fellow by the name of Warshovsky. I can't forget it, because we used to have a Warshovsky in Erie.

S: Not related?

B: No, no, no. Like all the apprentices, he slept on a straw mattress and Mrs. Warshovsky made *borscht* [a Ukranian reddish-purple soup made from beets] all the time for them. Anyway, my father worked himself up. When he finished, he became the foreman and he initiated the first strike.



Ukrainian *borscht* with *smetana*, *pampushkas* and *shkvarkas*

S: [Laughing].

B: For money, because they got no money, very little money. So he became a brass molder by trade.

S: Did your father have education before he became the apprentice? As a little boy did he go to any kind of school?

B: Religious school, everything was religious school. I don't know whether he went to a Russian speaking school or not.



Cirka and Joe Radov - 1925

S: But he did go to a Jewish school?

B: Oh. Oh. 4 o'clock in the morning. they used to go early and stay all day, and get wacked over the head by the *Rebbe*.

S: Let's move to your mother, Sarah [Cirka].

B: My mother lived also in the neighborhood, but they didn't know each other. Her mother died. She left just two sisters, my mother and [the future] Mrs. Katowitz, Sam Katowitz's wife. My mother left their house. She got a job as a journeyman apprentice too. It was in a mattress factory. They tufted the mattresses and then sewed the buttons to the sofa. They worked by the same area, like a playground. When it came time for a break, they would go out, everybody, well my father met my mother in the rest place. They would drink tea. My mother was 3, 4 or 5 years older than my father. But he fell in love with her and he followed her everywhere. My mother saved up enough money, after her apprenticeship when she started getting paid, she brought her sister, Hencha. Custom was, and still is probably, the oldest was supposed to get married, especially if they're girls. She got Hencha a job doing the same thing in the same factory. But my mother saved her money and my aunt found a fellow. But she had to have a dowery. She married her off. My mother was then free to do what she wanted. [See Familiarity, Theology & the World, A108-111].

S: Okay.



Tuberculosis Hospital in Ukraine

B: Then my parents got married. The Katowitzes moved to Erie because they had family who had a fish stall in the market on 16th and State Street. They had someplace to go. But my father couldn't leave, because he was put up for the army and nobody, no Jewish boy, wanted to be in the Army for 6 years, which was a horrible life. So somehow or other, they contrived to get my father in the hospital, the TB hospital, which was very prevalent in those days. They would steal a cup from the next guy, who really had TB. Then my father was declared incompetent for the Army because he had TB. Then he was on his own and they sent him to Erie, Pennsylvania.

S: So they got him out of our Russia?

B: Got him out of Russia and he came to Erie in 1908, but not with my mother. My mother and her two boys, well she had a girl, but she died at the age of 10 months because a babysitter dropped her.



Gus, Barney B. and Sam Radov - 1925

S: Oh my gosh!

B: Anyway, she had Sam and Gus. These 2 boys and my mother lived upstairs with grandpa and grandma, in Makarov. He came to Erie.

S: Who?

B: My father, Zusman Ben Yakov, Joseph Radov. He was a brass molder. So he worked on 10th and Liberty. There was a foundry and he got a job there. He got a dollar and a half a day.

S: Okay.

B: Some others in the Jewish community told him: get a horse and wagon, go over to the stable, rent the horse and wagon for about a ½ day and pick up *schmattas* [old clothes, typically down-market], paper, innertubes. He did. That's what he did. He quit his job and went over there and he found it much better. Then he got his own horse and wagon. [Joe and his horse and wagon, A-73]. Three years later, he had saved enough money to send for my mother and their children. He never saw my sister who died.



Joe Radov and Huckster

S: It had to be difficult.

B: Very difficult. Well, anyway, she gathered together her 3 half-brothers and her sister-in-law who was 14 years old at that time, they were all teenagers except for the oldest step-brother. They got tickets for all of them and they all came to Ellis Island.



Ellis Island

S: Wow.

B: Two children, plus Ida Halperin, the sister-in-law. Seven people. They almost got turned back because my oldest brother, Sam, had glaucoma.

S: That was the reason?

B: To send them back, to send him back anyway. I don't know how it worked out but they came. They were making money on the ship. The boys were making money on the ship, doing little favors for all the other tourists, running around you know, do you want tea or coffee, which we would do today, but I don't know what they did in those days. They all came here and lived in our house. They all lived in our house.

S: Where was the house? Was this where you were born?



Barney B. and Eve Radov

B: No. We started out in a house, second house west of German and 22nd Street, a two-family owned by Meyer Gold, with 8 people living downstairs. I was born there. I was born there on July 15, 1913. My mother came in 1911. She lost the first one. I was the second one of the reunion.

S: Thank God.

B: That's debatable.

S: So you had 8 people living downstairs.

B: We moved out of the house on 22nd and German. My father bought a house at 132 E. 21st. Small simple house. He added a kitchen and two bedrooms. Down payment was \$500. We lived downstairs and rented upstairs. One woman, my mother, would take care of 7 men. Anybody who came to Erie had to come to Joe Radov and Cirka Radov's house. The first thing that happened would be my father would talk to them. The second thing that happened would be that there is something on the table for them to eat.

S: Where did they get the money for the food?

B: My father went out of the *schmatta* [either rags or clothing] business and went into fruit and produce. Wholesale and retail, in the Central Market. It was half Jews, half Italians. Everyone would come down at 3:00 in the morning, buy the goods from the farmers, take it their stands and retail it. They would work until 5:00. My mother would come home and cook. Then they would have a pinochle game. Everyone came to Joe Radov's house. Many were in the bootlegging business. Not the moonshine business. Only the good stuff, in from Canada. My brothers [Sam and Gus] were old enough to go down there and help put the bottles from the speed boats into bags, 12 bottles in a bag, sew it at both ends.

S: So we're in the 1920s.

B: Russia: you couldn't get into Russia. You couldn't get out of Russia. Then, one day, there was one year where Russia allowed letters to be sent. Morris wrote my father. Morris was only 4 or 5 when my father last saw him, as my father was married in 1903. Morris Radov, when I went to work for him, told me he still remembered how beautiful my mother was when she was married and the clothes she wore had great big buttons. That's how good a memory he had.

S: So, who wrote?

B: Morris wrote, "If you ever want to see us alive, you can only do it now when I am in a position to gather the family together." My father read the letter to my mother. He said, "What do you think?" She said to him, "What do you mean, what do I think? It's your family. It's your father, your mother, your brothers, your sisters. Go. Go." So he went to the bank. He had saved up by that time about \$25,000, which was a lot of money.

S: I would say so.

B: A lot of money. [Laughing]. Letters of credit, letters from the mayor, letters from senators: all that stuff. But he couldn't go to Russia. So he went to Bucharest, Romania, adjacent to Russia. In the meantime, let me go back and tell you about Morris [P.] Radov.

S: Okay.



Old Bucharest



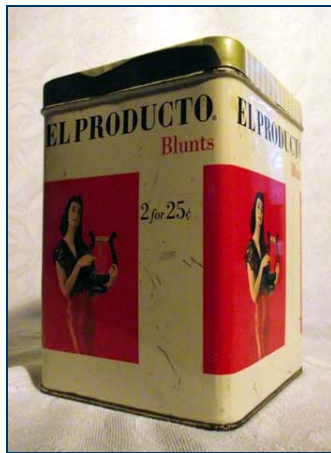
Traditional
Livery Stable

B: Morris Radov. Morris Radov was a bright man, bright man. He became Bar Mitzvah. In the meantime, his older brother, Peter Radov, who had a stand in that same market, Pasey they used to call him, in Russia, he was a drayer [wagon owner]. He delivered to the trains, to wherever you had to go by horse and wagon. Morris Radov wanted to go and live with him. His father let him. This business was a great big place, like Union Station used to be, and everybody had a desk and their horses and wagons. They would take requests for delivery or to ship to or from. Morris Radov became very adept at handling the railroad people. He got a gang together and they would break into a box car, whatever they could find, break open a box. If it was whiskey, if it was wine, if it was salt or sugar or pepper, anything, they would take it and they would report to the head of the express department that a car was broken into. Everyone there took. Morris would take the things he took and give them to his family, his brothers, his sister-in-law, his sisters, his father, his mother, all these people. [See War, Escape, Trotsky & Joseph Radov's Passport, A112-116].

S: Is this before the [Russian] Revolution?

B: No, this is during or after the Revolution, part of the Revolution, 1917, 1918. He used to tell me about the people – literary, intelligentsia – that Stalin murdered. He said that if hadn't got out that year [1922], he would have been one of them. He helped form a Palestinian group, to speak Hebrew to each other, to learn from each other, to dance. Incidentally, I asked my father one day, "There was no radio, there was no television. What did you do for entertainment?" He says, "Somebody had a piano in the house. We'd come and we'd sing and we'd talk and we'd drink tea." How much tea can you drink?" "Oh," he says, "15, 20 glasses." [Laughing].

S: [Laughs].



El Producto Blunts

B: So my father left and he landed in Bucharest, Romania. He went to see the Consul from the United States. The deputies didn't want to let my father in to see him. But he made it in to see the head Consul [Peter Augustus Jay, See Bucharest and its Consul, A93-98]. My father smoked El Producto cigars. He bought 10 a day and smoked 7 a day. Everybody wanted one of Joe Radov's cigars. He gave the Head Consul a cigar, became buddy-buddy with him, took him out to dinner, and told he had to have so many visas. Each night, Morris Radov got hold of a Russian or a Romanian with a little boat, a skiff, and they had to go across and they had to cross a boundary over the water [See Dnieper River, A89-92]. He would take 2 or 3 or 4 of his family, take them across. My father would meet them and would put them up.

S: Could you identify Morris? He's Barney R.'s father.

B: Right. In the meantime, Morris gets married to Luba. They had a little girl, who died, Anna. She [Anna] had been close friends with my wife, Eve, while they were teenagers. In 1936, pneumonia got her. It was very, very sad: Luba went nuts. Morris took it out on his work. He immersed himself in work, more and more and more.



Morris and Luba Radov - 1921

S: Now we're back to Morris in Russia.

B: In Russia, he took them. He finally got them all across into Bucharest. It took 3 months before my father could get visas. Romania was the only country which had

enough space left over to let people come to the United States. [See both Ship Manifest and passport claiming Radovs to be from Bucharest A7-20, 55-62]. You had to have visas. Harry Wexler had a brother, "Joe, you're going back to Europe. Could you bring back my brother and sister-in-law?" There were others. He brought back 27 people.

S: 27 people at one time.

B: He took these 27 people, and spent his entire fortune that he took over there. Housed them and fed them for 3 months, in Bucharest. Everyone came back with a Persian lamb coat. [Makarov and Babi Yar, A3-6]. One of the women wore one that was to be my mother's Persian lamb coat. He brought 2 brothers, 3 sisters, family, children, some people I don't even know. He brought them back too.



1922 – Top row: Unknown, Mamie/Menya, Lena, Goldman & Partgakov, Morris, Luba, Schmelik
Middle row: Esther, Peter, Joe, Jacob, Sheindel, Wolf, Jenny/Cherna, Bottom row: Muni, Bill, Barney Bass

S: Why Persian lamb coats?

B: That was the style in Romania. My father came back with a cloth coat, inside all fur, with tails.

S: That would cost money.



Wolf and Cherna Bass

B: Matter of fact, he had to borrow some money from the United States after he was in Bucharest to complete the deal. The Consul became one of my father's good friends. He said, "Joe, I can't get you 27." "Well, how many can you get?" "Keep 5 of the youngest here." He went over in December of 1920 [probably 1921]. This is now 1921 [1922]. Keep 5 people here until July, and I'll get the rest of the visas. That's the way it happened. They all came to Erie, except for some distant relative who stayed in New York. [In fact, Morris and his pregnant wife Luba remained in Europe until the *Olympic* returned months later. Why is uncertain, but Morris' general willingness to volunteer for the more difficult course, and Luba's absolute devotion to her husband, even if it meant delivering a baby at sea, would be a likely explanation. It also means that the family arrival picture, A1-2, had to be shot in Europe. It is thus more accurately a departure picture]. Here he had to get housing for them and jobs. Jenny [Cherna] married a fellow named [Wolf] Bass. He was a diamond cutter. They didn't last very long in Erie. They went to New York and eventually California. Raful Carl and his wife [Menya] and their children: my father and Mr. Carl started up an ice cream parlor, on 21st and State, across the street from the Erie County Milk Association, where they made the ice cream.



Jewelry Wolf Bass made for Cherna as an engagement gift, around 1917. Cherna sewed it into her bra, so she could smuggle it out of Soviet Russia.

S: ECOMA.

B: ECOMA. Beautiful roof. Lattice upstairs. Fancy wire chairs.

S: Old soda palace.



Minnie Carol Sakol

B: That's right. My dad wasn't there, but Mr. Carol and his oldest daughter, Minnie, ran the place. Right next door to it was his wholesale fruit and produce. He put Peter, Pasey, his older brother and his wife into the markets. His sister-in-law, Esther, didn't speak much English. She learned to say "beautiful nice." "How's the fruit today." "Beautiful nice. Beautiful nice."

S: She would say it twice?

B: Yes. They had no children. After a couple of years, Mr. Brugger, who had the wholesale cigars my father smoked, called him up one day and said, "Hey, Joe, I want to see you." He went up to see him. "What's wrong?". "You owe me almost \$2,500." "What do you mean I owe you \$2,500?" "The bills haven't been paid?" "No." So, he confronted his brother-in-law [Raful] and they made a deal. My father said "I don't want to have anything to with you anymore. Sell the business. Get rid of it." He kept on with the produce business until the Depression. The Depression killed us all.



Raful and Menya Carol - 1930

S: Did the brother-in-law move out of Erie?

B: No, no. He went his own way.

S: Did you work in high school?

B: No. I worked summers. We bought a Ford truck and we would go out huckstering fruit, yelling "strawberries, watermelons," in the richer neighborhoods. I'd go with my brother Morris.

S: You went to Academy [High School]?



Temple University, Philadelphia

B: Everyone in our family went to Academy, except my brother Sam. After high school, I went to Temple University, in Philadelphia. I got a scholarship from the Senator, Miles B. Kitts. He later became the judge. He was a drunk. Everybody knew that. He only wanted my mother's *gefilte* fish, and he got it. My father went up there to talk to him and he said, "Joe. Why didn't you tell me sooner? I would have gotten him a scholarship to the University of Pennsylvania." But Temple was a good school.

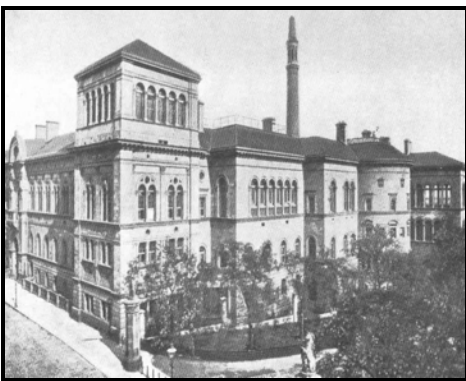
S: You must have been a pretty good student.

B: I was a B, B+ student. But in high school, I was valedictorian. At Temple, I was going to become a doctor. I got my B.A. I was going to stay out one year because we had no money. My father was broke. My brother Gus was practically feeding our family. He wasn't married yet.

S: He was an accountant.

B: He was an accountant. At first, he went all over town trying to get a job. "Oh, no, you're Jewish." One guy said "You're Jewish. You're not going to stay with us. You'll want to be your own boss in 2 or 3 years."

S: You graduated Temple.



Edinburgh Medical School, Scotland

B: In 1935. I came home. It was the Depression. You couldn't get a job anyplace. I was going to go to medical school. But because there were so many doctors and lawyers who weren't making a living, they wanted to stretch it out. So Case Western wanted me to go there another year before they would let me in the medical school. University of Pittsburgh wanted me to go for 2 years. I said what am I doing. I'm draining my parents of money. Then I got accepted to Edinburgh, Scotland.

S: Edinburgh, Scotland.

B: One of my fraternity brothers had been there. Said it was a fine school. I said, "Hitler's raising his head. If he ever gets over there, I'll never get home. And beside, we don't have any money."

S: That's a good reason to stay home.

B: Joe Gold was running the campaign for Judge Kitts. He said, "I'll get you a job in the Courthouse." One day I get a call from Judge Kitts. "I want to see you." He said, "I want you to make a speech. All the people I've helped are giving a speech. One from each nationality." I was so nervous I couldn't eat. Trying to memorize it. I made the speech. Kitts got elected. His law partner, Sam Roberts, a Jewish guy, family friend [later Chief Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court] said, "Barney, he'll never give you a job." I never got the job.



Erie, Pennsylvania Courthouse

S: So how did you get a job?

B: My Uncle Morris came over one day. He said, "I admire education. I did in Russia. I can use you, but I can't pay you very much. \$12 a week." I said, "I don't care if you start me with a dollar. But if I can help you grow, I want to grow with you." I lasted for 49½ years there.

S: You helped him grow.

B: The first week, I never got the \$12. My brother Morris [J.] was working there: he was making \$15. Morris [P.] came over to us both and gave me \$15 and my brother \$20.

S: Did your brothers graduate college?

B: Gus graduated Beckley College [now Thompson Institute] in Harrisburg as an accountant. Morris went to college: he wanted to have a foundry. He took all the courses.

S: Your parents worked hard to get everyone through.



Nancy, Gus, and Patti Radov - 1959

B: Yes. One day Gus went into a pawn shop. Gus said, "You buy old gold and silver. I want my father to do something." My father was getting very despondent, tending

toward suicide. So he went to work for the pawn broker buying gold and silver. Eventually, he went out on his own, selling it to a wholesaler in Buffalo. Every week he would buy \$100, \$200 or more worth of gold. He would go to little towns in New York State, as far as the Thousand Islands. After I was through college, I went with him, and he taught me the business. We'd leave Monday morning and come back Friday night, stopping in Buffalo on the way to sell the gold. He paid off a lot of debt. He'd give my mother \$25, but leave himself enough money to buy this stuff. Then, one day, Morris Radov said to him. "Why don't you come and be my wholesale representative?" This was a way of expanding the business. My father did that.

S: What was Morris [J.] Radov's business?



Independent Iron & Metal Co.

B: He got a truck and went out picking up scrap, from farmers, garages, and so on. Eventually, he and Dave Gabin formed a partnership. Morris would still go out every morning to buy scrap. After lunch, horses and wagons would come in, get their loads, and Morris would sell to the Jewish peddlers. It was only Jewish peddlers. Then, Dave Gabin said, "I can handle it on my own." So there was a pump factory with a piece of land. Morris rented the land. [This was Independent Iron & Metal Co.] He worked from 7:00 in the morning to 9:00 at night. Then my brother Morris [J.] got into this. He would get out of high school at 2:30, walk home, have milk and cake, and then go to work. He would never get home before 8:00. He would be paid \$15 a week.

S: You both worked for M.P.

B: We both did. My brother felt he could never get any place working there. A guy in Meadville wanted to retire and sell the place, but with no stock. He went to big Morris and little Morris. My brother gave him \$500 and he got the key to the place. M.P. backed him with money to buy stock. Young Morris would sell back to big Morris. My brother did very well for himself.



Morris Radov - 1925



CBS Cemetery

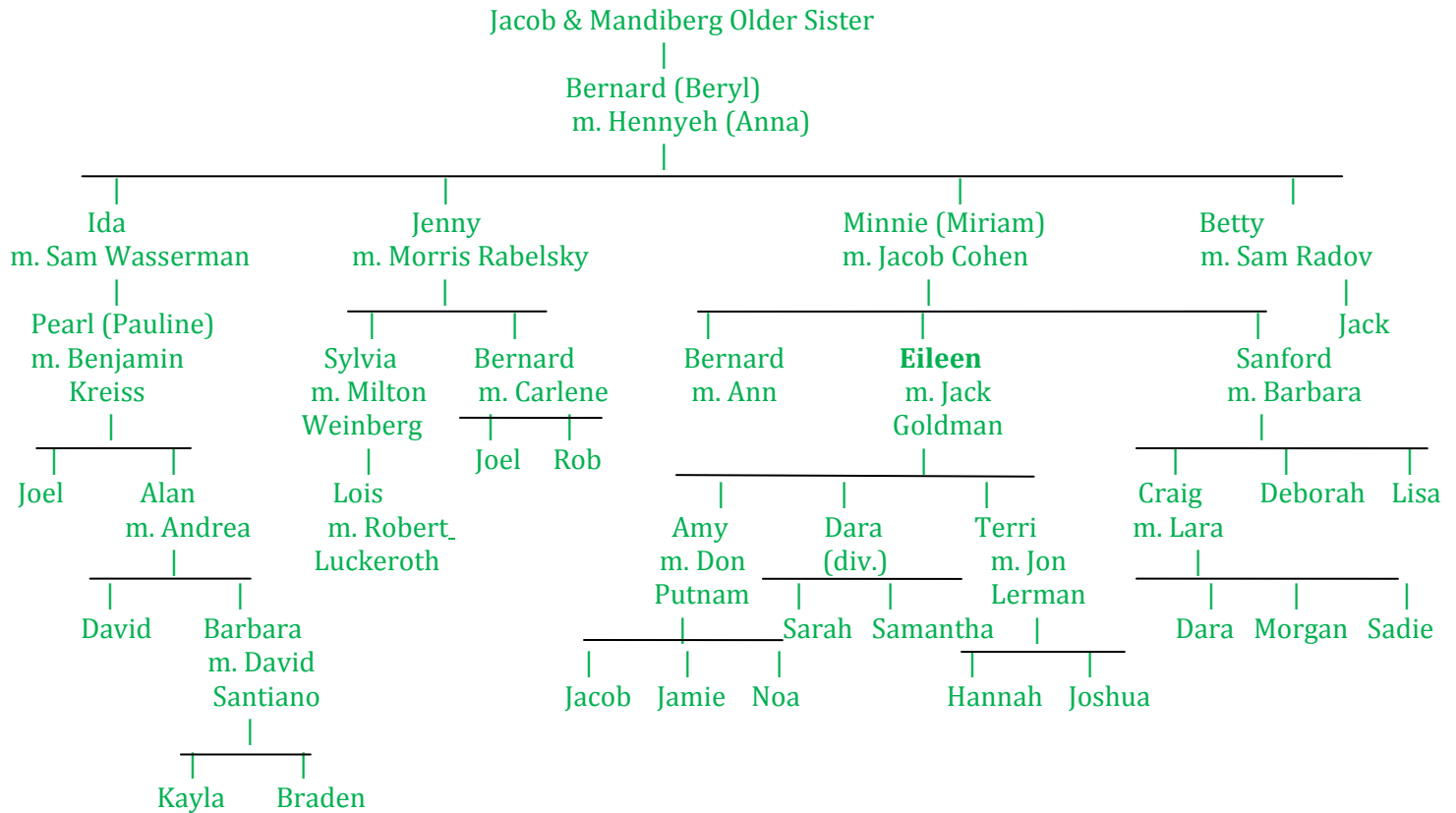
S: How would you like to be remembered Barney?

B: [With a broad smile]. Just bury me. Put up a headstone and just bury me. [He is now in CBS, A99-107. Eve, his late wife, is not buried there, but, per her request, had her remains scattered].



Front row: Jennifer Radov on Barney B.'s lap, Anna Heller, Dylan Rogers on Eve's lap,
Middle row: Westy & Marlene Radov, Marci Rogers
Last row: Mitch Radov and Paul Rogers (1982).

EILEEN COHEN GOLDMAN



Eileen Goldman; Conversation with Joel Levin – Wednesday, August 3, 2011

J: What year were you born Eileen?

E: 1934, to Minnie Radov and Jacob Cohen.

J: Minnie was the daughter of Beryl and Hennyeh.

E: I knew her as Anna.

J: Did Beryl or Anna come to the United States?

E: Oh yes. She [Anna] lived with us for a while. She died in our house right after Sandy was born.

J: Which would have been what year?

E: He was born in 1938 and she may have died in 1939, in the spring.

J: Did your grandfather make it to the United States?



Ida Wasserman

E: No. My Uncle Frank Shabansky, Anna's brother, paid for their passage over. He brought his sister. There were four little girls all together. There were three sisters and the daughter of the sister who died. Now I don't think the sister's daughter, the oldest daughter's daughter was in Russia, but I'm not sure. She may have been born in this country. I know Ida died. Ida was the oldest sister. She died and they raised Pearl.

J: There were four sisters: Ida, Jenny, Minnie and Betty.

E: Right.

J: Your mother was Minnie. Betty married her cousin, Sam Radov. Betty was the best one known in Erie because of that, because she married someone from Erie.



Ida, Jenny, Minnie and Betty with their mother, Hennyeh.

E: Right. That was basically our connection to Erie. We visited several times, but I don't know if that would have happened if Betty wasn't living there.

J: Then Minnie had three children, you, Sandy and Bernie. Bernie knew my mother from the University of Oklahoma.

E: Right. Bernie was born 1926 and I think he was 71 when he died, 1997. He was an electrical engineer.

J: Let me go back to Russia again. Did *Baba Enya* come over as a widow?

E: Yes.

J: Do you know when she was born?

E: I have no idea. I bet she didn't know either.

J: She had four children.

E: Right.

J: Did you ever hear anything about her husband Beryl or Bernard?

E: Not very much.

J: When I talked to Sandy [Cohen] briefly, he thought he was a baker.

E: Yes, but I don't know if he was or whether Enya baked and then supported her children by going to this market and selling the bread in the market. I don't know if it is something that he did and she took over.

J: They could have actually run a bakery together or he may have started it and she could have succeeded to it.

E: Right.



Bernard (Beryl) Radov
(with uniform
superimposed)

J: How did he die?

E: Beryl, a burst appendix. My mother used to say that had they gotten him to hospital sooner, he wouldn't have died.

J: This would have been in Russia in the early 1900s?

E: Right.

J: What year did your mother come over?

E: 1911.

J: She did not travel with the rest of the Radovs. She came over under her own family's energy?

E: Right. The earlier Radovs, there was one grandfather and, when the grandmother died, he married the sister?

J: That's right. It was Jacob Radov and he married two Mandiberg sisters. The younger was Scheindel Bossie Mandiberg and she had five children. We do not know the name of the other Mandiberg sister. Do you know that name?

E: No, so that was my mother's grandmother.

J: Right. That was your mother's grandmother and she is just known as the older sister Mandiberg. It would be nice to give her a name.

E: I don't have it.



Jacob Radov

J: You don't know anything that her and her husband Jacob did in Russia?

E: I'm assuming I do, since he was a Rabbi, right.

J: He was a Clerk of Courts. [They are not incompatible. Barney B. Radov knew of Jacob's rabbinical training first hand. In general, rabbinic training was not uncommon, but paying careers were often more secular].

J: My only picture of him is black and white. If you have a better, I would love to have it.

E: No. The only picture I have is one that Eve [Radov] had made for us. A copy of the one that you have probably.

J: He has a white beard in this [See Family Picture, A1-2] as far as I can tell. He would have been in his 70s. There is red hair throughout the family, but not much remaining by their 70s.

E: Right. My mother used to tell me that her grandfather had a red beard, but I don't know which grandfather it was.



Makarov, Russia

J: That's interesting. Do you know the *shtetl* she grew up in?

E: Sandy knows that and it begins with an M.

J: Makarov [Makarov and Babi Yar, A3-6].

E: That's the one that Sandy has always said.

J: Your grandfather was one of three children by the first Mandiberg wife. Did you know Peter, the youngest brother?

E: Is he the one who converted?

J: No. Kayfman's the one who converted.

- E: My mother, whenever she heard the Peter. She spit.
- J: Really.
- E: She would say "Peter the *goy*," and spit. So I don't know if there are two Peters or what. [See Familiarity, Theology and the World, A108-111].
- J: Peter was in Erie with Esther. In any case, there were three brothers in the family tree. There could have been cousins. There was Kayfman, Beryl and Pasey, or Peter. Peter lived in Erie and was well-known to the Erie family as a gem.
- E: Then there must have been another Peter. Or maybe she had Peter mixed up with Pasey.
- J: Pasey is Peter. Maybe she had Kayfman mixed up with Pasey.
- E: I don't know. There is one conversion I know. I associated it with the name Peter.
- J: She used to spit when she said the one who converted.
- E: Yes. She used to say "Peter the *goy*." And she would do that Jewish little thing with her mouth.
- J: Did you ever come to Erie?
- E: Yes. But I was very young. I came around the time of my 16th birthday, so it was 1950. I was there with the family, once or twice, when I was very young. I barely remember it. We stayed and there were two houses.
- J: They were on 37th Street, next door to each other. [Morris and Luba were 137 W. 37].



Morris and Luba Radov

- E: Right. We stayed, not in Joe and Cirka's house, but in the house next door.
- J: Right. You stayed in Morris and Luba's house. It was the brick house, not the white wooden one.
- J: At that point, was Mitzi living there or had she left?
- E: Yes. Mitzi and I became friends actually. Sort of friends and I visited her when I was 16. I made a trip alone and went to visit Mitzi.

J: Do you have any memories of Joe and Cirka or Morris and Luba?

E: Not really. I remember that Cirka had a clothes ringer. I thought that was very wonderful. I liked her very much. I liked both of them very much. They were very nice to us. That's all I remember.

J: Both meaning both couples or both women?

E: Cirka and Joe. I don't remember Moisha and Luba very much.

J: There was another Minnie and there was another Jenny and there was another Ida in the family with the same names. Did you know of them?

E: No.

J: Could you then just bring me to date on the four women, Ida, Jenny, Minnie and Betty. Ida was the oldest sister.

E: So Ida had Pearl and Pearl has died. Pearl had two sons. Pearl married Benjamin Kreiss. They had two sons, Joel and Alan. Pearl died in 1991.

J: Did Ida only have one child, Pearl?



Ida Wasserman

E: Just Pearl. Ida married Sam Wasserman.

J: Where did they live?

E: I have no idea where they lived. But Pearl lived in the Bronx when I knew her growing up.

J: Where did Joel and Alan live?



Pearl Wasserman

E: Joel has passed away. I lost touch after Pearl died, as I did with Alan, who lives not too far away from us.

J: Where do you live?

E: I lived in Brookline, right outside of Boston. Alan lives in Dartmouth, Massachusetts. I assume he's still living there. He has two children.

J: Did Joel have any children?

E: Joel never married.



Coolidge Corner, Brookline, MA

J: Where do you live in Brookline? I used to live in Brookline.

E: Oh where?

J: Where does everybody live when they are young and poor? In Coolidge Corner.

E: That's where we lived.

J: I lived on Dwight Street. Do you know where that is?

E: Oh god yes. When we first moved to Brookline we moved to 54 Dwight Street.

J: We probably saw each other and did not know it.

E: Right.

J: Let me return to things less interesting than that. What was Jenny's last name?

E: Rabelsky.

J: It wasn't Cherna was it?

E: Oh, maybe it was.



Jenny Rabelsky

J: Because the other side of the family has a Cherna who was also called Jenny? And that's why I think that. That seems to be a common name for many women in the family.

E: My mother's name was actually Miriam. My mother was always Minnie to us.

J: Where was your mother born?

E: In Russia. She came here when she was 11 years old, in 1911.

J: So your mother grew up speaking Russian and Yiddish.

- E: She did not know very much Russian or maybe she forgot it and she spoke Yiddish with her mother and my father's mother. [See Familiarity, Theology & the World, A108-110].
- J: In Erie, it was a little more complicated. They spoke Russian occasionally just because the kids didn't understand it. What was Jenny's husband's name.
- E: Morris. They lived in the Bronx. They had two children, both deceased. One was Sylvia and the other was Bernie. Everyone was named after Beryl.
- J: The number of Barneys, Beryls and Barrys are overwhelming. You would think that the family could be more creative.
- E: Yes.
- J: What happened to them?
- E: Sylvia died very young of a heart attack. She married someone named Weinberg.
- J: Do you know his first name?
- E: I think maybe his first name was Milton. She died and left a little girl, Lois and Lois was about four at the time and she stayed with her father but I think she came at a very early age and Jenny raised her. She was very bright and she went to Hunter College. Then she became a flower child and I lost track of her. She went to San Francisco in the 1960s. I saw her there in 1965. That was the last contact I had.



Lois Weinberg Luckeroth

- J: How old would she have been then?
- E: I think she was born in 1948. Luckeroth is her married name and she moved to Portland or Seattle. She was running the dog races up there. An interesting person, very bright. I haven't been able to really reach her. I don't know if she has children. [She lives in Eagle Creek, Oregon, married without children].
- J: You say there was an additional Bernie?
- E: Yes. There was another Bernie. Sylvia's brother's name was Bernie Rabelsky. He married a woman named Carlene. I don't know her maiden name. They had two boys, Joel and I don't remember the other [Rob].



Sandy Cohen

- J: What happened to Bernie?
- E: He died 10 or 15 years ago. He was a pattern cutter. He grew up in the Bronx but then they moved to Florida. I think Hollywood.
- J: So then Minnie had three children. You, Sandy and Bernie. When were each of you born?

E: Bernie was born in 1926, I was born in 1934 and Sandy was born in 1938.



Bernie Cohen

- J: Bernie was an electrical engineer. Did he have any children?
- E: No. He married Ann. I don't remember her maiden name. She died 4 or 5 years ago.
- J: You are married to?

E: Jack. Not Jacob. Just plain Jack.



- J: What do you and Jack do for a living?
- E: I am a textile designer, basically I'm a weaver. I sell to galleries. Mostly hand-woven scarf's. That's where the money is these days and that's what I do.

Weavers' Guild of Boston

J: What does Jack do?



Eileen and Jack Goldman – 2006

- E: Jack is semi-retired now. He's in records' management.
- J: How many children do you have?
- E: Three. Amy, Dara, and Terri is the third one. Amy is married to Don Putman. She's not working right now. She was the creative art director for CBS News International for 20 years. She had a big job.

J: Was that in New York?

E: Yes. She moved to New York. Her husband is a pediatric cardiologist. They have three children. The oldest one is Jacob, after my father. They have two daughters: Jamie, and Noa. Jacob starts the University of Miami this September, Jamie is still in high school and Noa is going into 5th grade. Now they live in Montclair, New Jersey.

J: Sandy is married to?

E: Barbara, who is not well. They have three children. Craig [b. 1962], Deborah [b. 1963] and Lisa.

J: What does Craig do?

E: Something to do with computer software design. He is married to his second wife, Lara. He has two children by his first wife. Do you want their names?



Eileen Goldman w/all her grandchildren 2009
Top: Sarah and Sammi Goldman, Eileen Goldman, Jamie and Jacob Putman,
Bottom: Noa Putman, Hannah and Joshua Lerman

J: Yes. I am doing this by stories, but also names so, in about 10 or 20 years, the kids can look each other up.

E: Do you have any children?

J: Yes. I have three children.

E: What are their names?

J: It's good to be interviewed. I appreciate it. Reid, Jenny and Ava.

E: Where do they live?



Jenny, Joel, Rachel, Mary Jane and Ava Levin

J: Reid lives in Cleveland. Jenny lives in Portland, Oregon and Ava is going into 7th grade.

E: Oh, you have a young one.

J: Basically, 27, 23 and 13. Reid is a tennis pro, Jenny is an engineer.

E: It seems to be heavy in the family.

J: She works for General Electric. I know there is a fair amount of engineering on your side of the family.

E: Yes. And my youngest daughter married an engineer. Craig has three girls. Dara, Morgan and the baby is Sadie. He lives in Newton with his second wife and the baby Sadie. His first wife lives in Sudbury with the two older girls.

J: What about Deborah?

E: Debbie lives in Wayland. She is a lawyer. She is married to gastroenterologist, George Dickstein. Debbie goes by Cohen. She refuses to be called Dickstein.

J: Do they have children?

E: The first one is Jared, going on 16. Benjamin is going have his *Bar Mitzvah* in a couple of weeks, so he is 13. Alyssa, maybe 8. I lose track. We have a lot grandchildren. Lisa lives in Montclair and she is married to Matt. She has two girls, Abigail and Mia, 9 and 6.



Henry with Ties by Dara Goldman

J: What about your second daughter, Dara?

E: She is a children's book illustrator in Sudbury with two girls. She is divorced, with two children, Sarah, 20, who goes to the University of Maryland and Sammi, who will be 18.

J: Am I missing one of your children?

E: You're missing Terri. Terri [b. 1965] is my youngest one, with two children: Hannah, 16 and Joshua, 13. They live in Marion. She's married to Jonathan Lerman who is an electrical engineer.

J: Many Radov offspring. Although there were originally eight Radov children, one became a priest and one had no children. The other six were relied on.



Amy Putman, Eileen & Jack Goldman, Terri Lerman and Dara Goldman - 2009

E: One became a priest?

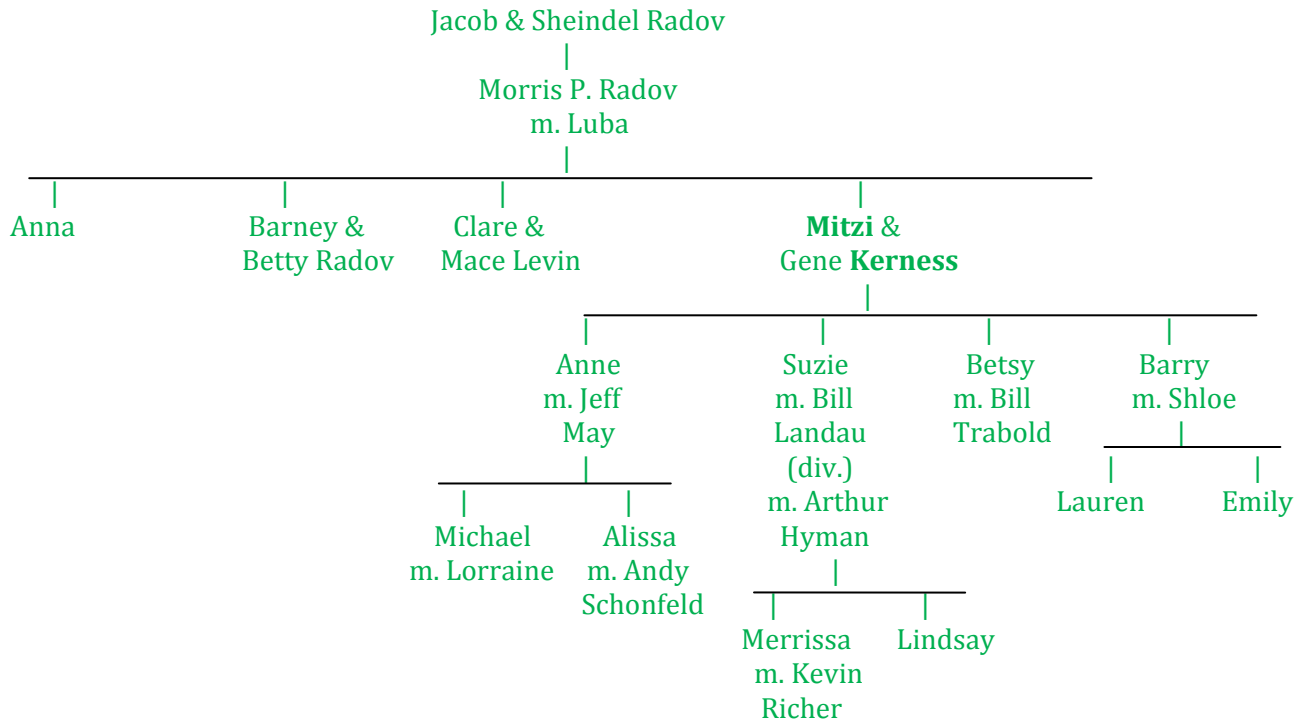
J: Yes. Kayfman became a priest.

E: And that's probably the one that my mother remembered and spit on.

J: Kayfman became a priest and then Beryl was the second and he obviously died in Russia. Peter came over in 1922 with the last of the Radovs who left. Joe and Ida had made it out earlier in 1908 and 1911 and the rest – Peter, Menya, Cherna and Morris – all came over in 1922. You heard no other stories back from Russia?

E: No. I didn't. My mother's memories were of this country.

MITZI RADOV KERNESS



Mitzi Radov Kerness; Conversation with Joel Levin – Tuesday, July 26, 2011

J: Mitzi, I know you remember a story about the Korean War, and Gene [Kerness] and Jackie [Jack Radov, 1931 - 2007].



Mitzi and Gene Kerness - 1953

M: Right, they were in the army. Jackie and Gene looked one another up in Korea. One of them, and I don't know which one, said they ran into a chaplain with the name of either Radov or Radovsky. They both said it couldn't possibly be a relative, because he wasn't Jewish. Then we figured out later that it had to have been the one relative that left the family. I was always told the one brother that left the Radov family married out of the religion and they sat *Shiva* for him and everything. I was never told that he left and converted to Catholicism or Christianity. I didn't know that.

J: But this brother would have been too old to have been in Korea.

M: This had to be a son or grandson.

J: Catholic priests don't normally have children. But it could have been Russian Orthodox. The Orthodox clergy have children.

M: He also could have been a Protestant. They did not specifically say he was Catholic, they just said Chaplain.

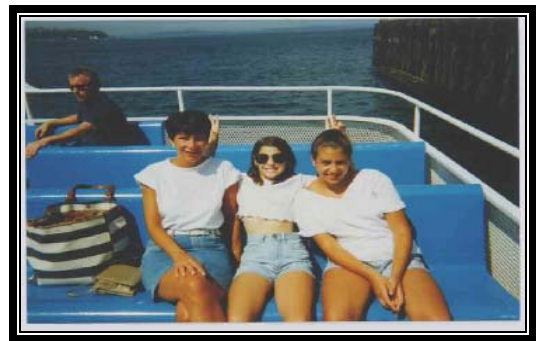
J: Let me ask you a couple of quick things. I know we'll finish tomorrow. You don't remember anything about your grandmother, do you?

M: No. Clare [Radov Levin] used to play Casino with her.

J: The oldest Radov you knew was Peter.
You knew Peter and Esther.

M: I loved them. Suzie is named after Esther:
Ellen. She doesn't use it, but she is Sue
Ellen.

J: My mother [Clare] said that, when you
were little girls, you sometimes would go
to Peter's stand.



Suzie (Kerness), Lindsay and Merissa
Landau - 1995

M: I loved being in the market with them. Yes.

J: What do you remember about that?

M: Well, he just sold a lot of potatoes and apples. That's all I remember as a child. And she was the best baker. She used to make a pastry with cheese and she rolled the dough really thin and put it in the shape of an S. I could never get anyone to duplicate it. After Peter died, she lived with Cirka and Joe.

J: That was next door to your parents.

[illegible]

M: Not to me, but she may have to others.



M: No, but I was told it caused his stuttering.

M: I just heard the story that he went down to the market and someone held him up for money at his stand and that's why he stuttered.

J: So you didn't hear the other story.

M: Not at all.

J: You had a picture of Anna?

M: I have it.

J: You got it from your father's office after he passed away. He had kept it at work.



Anna Radov

M: Barney [R. Radov] moved into my father's office after my father passed away and Gene told Barney that I would love it. That's how I got it.

J: But your mother [Luba] never mentioned Anna, right? [Ironically, for most of the rest of her life, her two other daughters were not specified by individual name, either, but were always called 'Mitzi-Clare.']

M: Never.

J: Did she ever speak about her sisters and brothers?

M: Not to me.

J: My mother said there was a picture of them.

M: Yes. We can't seem to find that. I've got to take cookies out of the oven, Joel. I promise to call you tomorrow night at home.

Continued

J: What do you remember about Anna's death?



Black Chow Chow

M: Frank McCarthy, who was very big at St. Vincent Hospital, was our doctor. He eventually felt terrible that he was out of town when Anna got sick. I don't think anything would have helped, because they did not have penicillin. So Dr. Roth came to the house. But when she died, now this is what I'm been told, I remember very little of it, my sister Anna used to play the piano beautifully and that's why we had the baby grand. The black chow dog was really hers and used to sit under the piano when she played. When she died, the dog just sat under the piano and howled and they could not stop it and my father had to give it to a friend out in the country.

J: What was the dog's name?

M: I can't remember. I keep thinking 'Cutie.'

J: Let me go back. Did Esther actually die in your arms?

M: Yes. I thought, isn't that something, she died in my arms, I held her. Back then, I was not allowed to the funeral.

J: You were close to Pasey and Esther?

M: They were wonderful.



Esther Radov

J: They didn't have any kids, so you and my mother were close to them. [At least not reported. Per Peter's Naturalization papers, he had a child, likely stranded in Russia].

M: Yes. I would see her next door a lot.

J: In the later years.

M: Right. But I remember visiting her on 17th Street and having her bake and going to the market with Pasey, with Peter.

J: But she didn't have any relatives in the United States, did she?

M: No.

J: You knew Minnie and Morry, who lived in Chicago.

M: Their daughter and I were very close. I was in her wedding.

No. 8722

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DECLARATION OF INTENTION

(Invalid for all purposes seven years after the date hereof)


State of Pennsylvania } In the Common Pleas Court
County of Erie } of Erie of Erie, Pa.

I, Peter Rado also known as Pasia Radovsky
now residing at 254 E. 17th St., Erie, Pa.
occupation Peddler aged years, do declare on oath that my personal description is:
Sex male, color white, complexion dark, color of eyes brown
color of hair black, height 5 feet 7 inches; weight 180 pounds; visible distinctive marks
none
race Jewish; nationality Russian
I was born in Kievo, Russia on April 30, 1905
I am married. The name of my wife or husband is Ester Radov
we were married on Aug. 15, 1902 at Kievo, Russia; she or he was
born at Kievo, Russia on Oct. 10, 1875, entered the United States
at New York, New York on Feb. 15, 1922 for permanent residence therein, and now
resides at Erie, Pa. I have one children, and the name, date and place of birth,
and place of residence of each of said children are as follows:
Mrs. Ida Halperin, born Aug. 13, 1894 at Kievo, Russia now residing in Erie, Pa.

I have heretofore made a declaration of Intention: Number 4875 on May 1, 1922
at Erie, Pa. my last foreign residence was Kievo, Russia
I emigrated to the United States of America from Sherbourg, France
my lawful entry for permanent residence in the United States was at New York, N.Y.
under the name of Pesach Radovsky on February 18, 1922
on the vessel SS Olympic

I will, before being admitted to citizenship, renounce forever all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty, and particularly, by name, to the prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty of which I may be at the time of admission a citizen or subject; I am not an anarchist; I am not a polygamist nor a believer in the practice of polygamy; and it is my intention in good faith to become a citizen of the United States of America and to reside permanently therein; and I certify that the photograph affixed to the duplicate and triplicate hereof is a likeness of me. So help me God.

No 89088



Peter Rado

Pasia Radovsky

Subscribed and sworn to before me in the office of the Clerk of said Court, at Erie, Pa. this 2nd day of July anno Domini 1936. Certification No. 7-89220 from the Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization showing the lawful entry of the declarant for permanent residence on the date stated above, has been received by me. The photograph affixed to the duplicate and triplicate hereof is a likeness of the declarant.

Lawrence A. Taylor
Clerk of the Common Pleas Court
By Charles M. Stiles, Deputy Clerk

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE

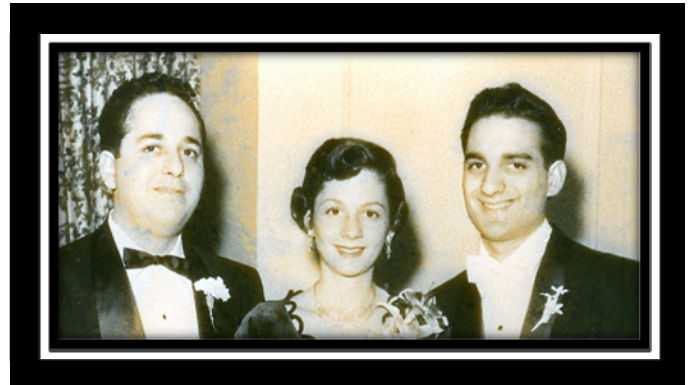
Peter Rado's Declaration of Intention shows all three of his names – Peter Rado (English), Pesach Radovsky (Hebrew) and Pasia Radovsky (Yiddish). It has him both originally born and last living in Kievo (Kiev), not any of the other Radov towns – Makarov, Fastov and Ekaterinoslav – and married to Esther (nee Kozlow) since August 15, 1902. It lists Esther's birthday as his, and his as either hers (10 years earlier) or who knows what. Also, in addition to denouncing anarchism, polygamy and loyalty to foreign potentates, he refers to himself as a peddler, elsewhere as a fruit and produce dealer. Certainly the most interesting statement is that he has a child (whether with Esther or his first wife is unclear), otherwise virtually nowhere ever mentioned.



Shloe, Lauren, Emily and Barry Kerness - 2002

- J: That's Barbara?
- M: Right. Cookie. Barry is named after her. She had MS, but then the cancer set in.
- J: What was she like?

M: She was gorgeous. She was probably an inch or so taller than I and she had Minnie's big eyes, but Minnie's protruded from being a diabetic. But Cookie had her great big eyes. They lived in a little town outside of Chicago, where there were not very many Jewish people and they had a shoe store. They used to send her to Erie to visit cousin Lena for the summer, so I always hung out with her.



Ted, Barbara (Herman) and Jordan Sakol - 1952

- J: You and Cookie?
- M: Yes. There were two other brothers, I think Clare probably told you, Ted and Jordan.
- J: Right. I knew Ted and Jordan both from going to college in Chicago. What happened to Barbara's kids?



Bill and Bety Trabold - 1982

M: She had one child. Betsy [Kerness] was born May 1 [1957] and Michael was born May 31. She had MS when she carried him and as a very small child, at one year old, he had a stroke. If he hadn't needed some special attention, I would have brought him to Erie and raised Betsy and Michael together like twins. But then she had two other boys before Michael. Her husband married someone with a couple of boys who died of cancer.

- J: How many children are there?

M: There should be three. She had two before she had Michael. She had a total of three. But Michael is in a nursing home or facility.

J: What was her husband's name?

M: Morty Herman. We would talk now and then, especially about the children, but I think he really wanted to forget the past and start anew with his second wife. I couldn't blame him. So we didn't keep in touch.

J: You knew Menya's son, Beryl.

M: Bill was Beryl.

J: Bill Carol. What happened to him?



Anne, Betsy, Suzie and Barry Kerness - 1961

M: I don't know. He had a wife and two daughters, but he divorced her. The last I saw him was when I was in California with my father when Lena's son Murray was so ill and he died.

J: Bill's wife was Beatrice?

M: Right. They lived on 21st between Holland and German.



Beatrice and Bill Carol - 1950

J: What did they do in Erie?

M: I have no idea. I don't remember. Lena's husband, Harry, was a house painter, I believe, and Sheila married a bigamist.

J: Right. But did they work that out?

M: I don't know. Clare might, because when she was in California, she would see them.

J: I know. I saw them when I was out in California. What about Muni?

M: All I know from growing up, they used to say he was a communist or a socialist. That's all. I don't remember him. Someone said he came to my father's funeral [1967].

J: His kids have become friendly with Jenny [Levin, b. 1987].

M: How did they become friends?



Portland roommates Molly Smith and Jenny Levin

J: At Adele Radov's funeral [1924-2011], Westy [Radov] told me that he had been friendly with Lynda [Falkenstein] and that they had been corresponding. I did not know that the two daughters were in Portland, Lynda and Pam, until I got an email from Lynda. She was great. Now Jenny is rooming with Pam's daughter, Molly.

M: Isn't that something.

J: Did you know about Lena and her sister being attacked?

M: No, I never did.

J: Nobody talked about anything.

M: No. You just swept it under the rug. You did not talk about that.

J: How well did you know Beryl?

M: I knew Bill Carol very well. We would have them for dinner. I can remember going over there to have dinner, and why it was just me and not your mother, I don't know. I would have dinner with mother and dad and we had dinner at their house on 21st. I met his wife when I was out in California. Bill and Lena were very, very close. He really took care of her.



Harry and Lena Smith -1930

J: Did she need help at the end?

M: I would not know about the end. I was just saying that, all the years in Erie, Bill was very good to Lena and they had a very loving relationship.

J: So your grandmother was a Mandiberg and obviously her sister, the first wife, was a Manidberg. You knew that your grandfather married two sisters.

M: That I knew, that I was told.

J: You knew Jack and Helen?

M: Clare knew them somehow. I don't know where she got the names or how she found the Mandibergs. All I know is they said that, if we wanted, we could stay with them while we visited Cookie in the hospital.



Clare and Mace Levin - 1964

M: They said they would be at their summer place on the lake and we could bring warm clothes which we did, and I think they were Reconstructionists and they were singing. Anyway, that's all I remember about them.



Symbol of Jewish Reconstructionist Federation

J: Did you ever meet any of the other Mandibergs, other than Jack and Helen, who are both deceased?

M: No. Not at all. Never met another one.

J: Did you ever hear stories about the bootlegging and gambling that the family activity in the early days in the 20s and 30s.

M: Very little. I do remember my father's friend Mr. Scolio, who lived on upper State Street. They had a gate at the front and they had a sunken living room and the daughter and I were very good friends. I can remember going to Jean Marie's birthday and it was all relatives and me.

J: Who were they?



Jefferson Elementary School, Erie

M: I think my father had some kind of dealing with him at one time. Mrs. Scolio would pull up to Jefferson [Elementary School] in this great big car. What did I know about cars but it was the biggest car made they said. Even if it was raining and out of the way, she would drive me home. The connection was something from way back, bootlegging, I think.

J: Did you ever hear about the story about how everybody made it over from Russia, about the trip? Joe had 3 trips and then Morris and Luba came over in 1922.

M: I was told that my father was an officer in the Russian Army, which was very rare for a Jew and that when he got married, to go on his honeymoon, they gave him a railroad car. He took it right out of Russia and kept on going. Joe had paid the way somehow for him to get out. [The family likely left Russia from Fastov, where Morris and Luba, and maybe others, were living, according to their passport. See Morris and Luba's Passport, A60-62. In fact, Morris and Luba had been married for some time. The railroad station where Morris worked and the family departed, as shown in *circa* 1900, is A70-71].

J: Well, I'm not sure that's not true. He made it to Bucharest at least.

M: I know that when my sister died, the casket was at home, they took me over to Cirka and Joe's to get me out of the house, so I never knew what was going on. You know with a 4-year old today, you explain things, but in those days you didn't. I know that my mother had a nervous breakdown and went to bed. There we were in a 2 bedroom flat with a live-in, and the live-in person enrolled me in kindergarten, and although my birth certificate says Madeline Miriam, my mother would call me Mitzi or Miriam. To this day, I have trouble with passports.

J: Because the name on your birth certificate is what?

M: The original birth certificate is Madeline Miriam Radov. And when we would go for a ride after dinner, my father would try to avoid streets where there were cemeteries because my mother would see a cemetery and start crying. So if we were ever on a ride with them, we would say, *oh, look at this house*, and we'd divert her attention. Then my father did business with the Heldemanns, Morris Heldemann, and happened to say how much trouble he was having with Luba and why don't you come in, and they did come in and the Heldemanns became very good friends. That really helped my mother.



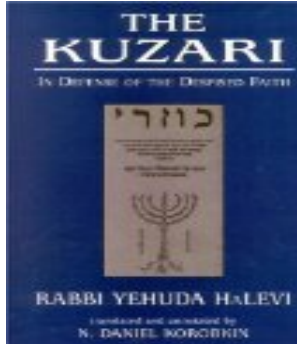
Mitzi and Gene Kerness - 1995

J: Now, your mother [Luba] did not speak Yiddish growing up.

M: She learned it here.

J: Did you ever hear what her parents did back in Russia?

M: Not a word. A couple of times, when I would ask her questions when I was little and in Jefferson [grade school], she couldn't talk about, so I knew nothing.



The Kazari, by Yehuda HaLevi, 1140, a philosophical treatment of the Khazars.

J: Did you ever hear from your mother that she was a member of the Khazar Jews?

M: No, you told me that before but you said she looked like she could be.

J: Well, they didn't know Yiddish, they were traders, they were from her part of the world, they had slightly broader cheeks and flashy eyes, they married another Jewish tribe that had red hair and the two were more red haired, blue-eyed and blond than the rest of the Russian Jews.

M: I never heard that.

J: Did you see that Barney last week sent me Luba and Morris's passport?

M: Isn't that wonderful. All these years they had it.

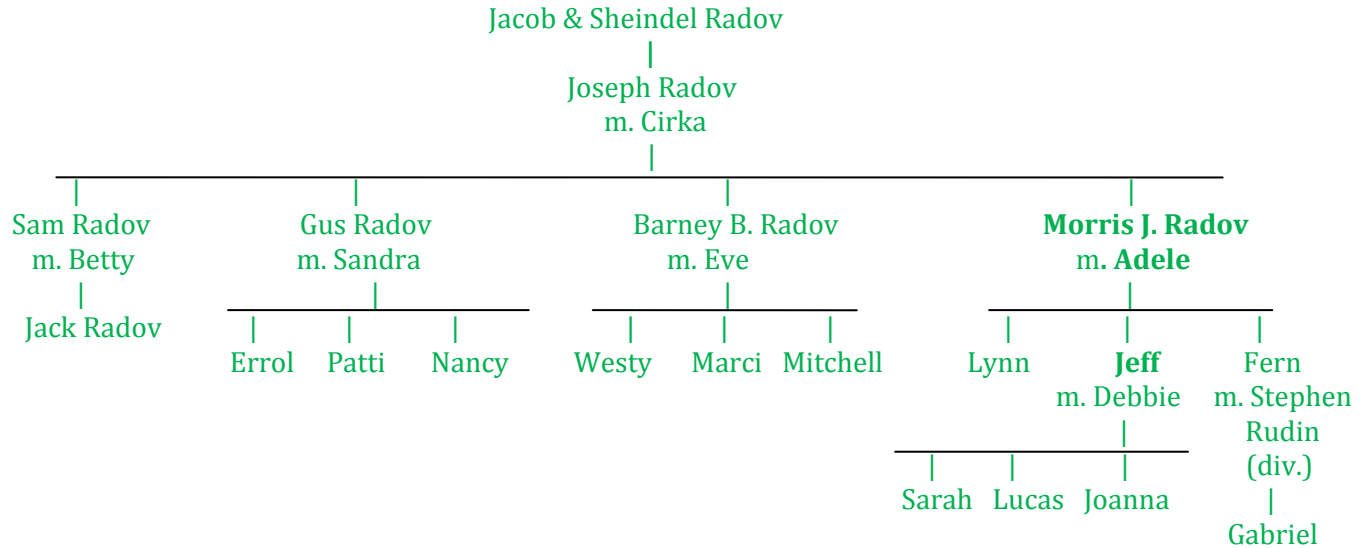
J: Interestingly enough, it has a picture of Morris and Luba taken in Russia. Did you see that? They looked very young.



Luba Radov - 1921

M: She was a beauty. I can remember Mrs. Emerman stopping me and saying should have been a movie star and then they had their pictures taken and that would have been the days before colored film. Shava took their pictures and then Mrs. Shava would paint them and he kept them in his window he said for the longest time because he got more customers from it. I have those pictures.

MORRIS, ADELE AND JEFF RADOV

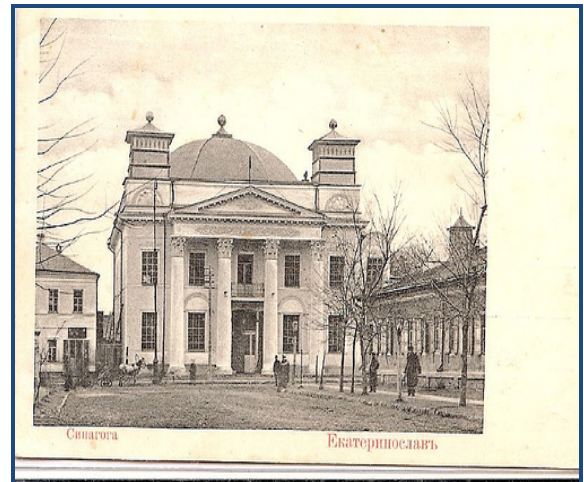


Conversation among Morris J. Radov [1916-2003], Adele Radov [1924-2011] and Jeff Radov on June 29, 2002, at 237 Jefferson St., Meadville, PA.

JR: The family was originally from what is now Ukraine, but then was Russia. Do you know the town?

M: I heard it was Ekaterinoslav. [See Yekaterinoslav and Ekaterinoslav, A81-85]. It's near Kiev.

JR: Yekaterinoslav was home to Catherine the Great's Summer Palace, on the Dnieper River. The communists called it Ekaterinoslav. Now it is again called Yekaterinoslav. It's home to Radovs and President Leonid Brezhnev [of the Soviet Union; he was, like many Radovs, a metal worker]. How did your family come to this country?



Yekaterinoslav - Dnepropetrovsk Synagogue



Jacob Radov

M: I was born on August 25, 1916. I was the youngest son of Joseph and Sarah [Cirka] Radov. My mother had eight children, but four lived. She had one daughter. The earliest story I remember from when I was a little fellow was that my grandfather [Jacob] was the Clerk of Courts in this city. He was a very religious, Jewish Orthodox man, with a beautiful white beard and a beautiful head of white hair.

A: He had hair on his head?

M: Well, he was bald, but he had the Radov rim.

JR: What was his name?

M: His name was Jacob [or Yakov or Yankel] Radov and his wife was Sheindel.

A: Excuse me, his name was Jacob Radovsky.

M: Radovsky was their Russian name, How my dad got here, I don't know. He and my mother were married around 1904. My paternal grandfather, as I say, was the Clerk of Courts and he was well-educated. He educated all his sons and his daughters very well. Most of the people in the Russian era, the women, the girls, did not get an education. My aunts were very well read and very well learned.

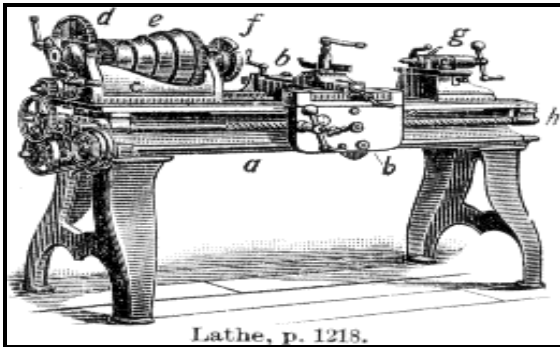


Morris and Adele Radov - 1969

JR: What were the names of your father's [Joseph's] brothers and sisters?

M: Let me go back a little further. My grandfather married and his first wife died. It was customary to wed the unmarried sister. [This type of marriage, a sororate marriage, was always a very relaxed custom. Its counter-part was the *yibbun* or levirate marriage. There, a brother is obligated to marry the widow. [Deuteronomy 25: 5-6]. The failure to do so (*halizah*) allows the widow to spit in her brother-in-law's face, take one of his shoes, and require the community to call him "the one without a shoe." Jacob and Sheindel's marriage was likely motivated (in part) by convenience and the call of custom, with affection hopefully a by-product, but it was in no sense a duty]. My dad had three sisters and two brothers. The oldest brother was Peter, but he was from the first wife. The others were from his second wife. My dad, in his younger years, when he was a little fellow, I think about 12, was an apprentice in a valve-spigot manufacturing plant. The little boys lived upstairs in a dormitory and they worked downstairs for their keep. He learned how to be a lathe operator who fixed brass valves. My mother came from a very small family. My

mother had a younger sister, but my mother's mother died when she was about 12 years old. She became the head of family. She worked at a mattress factory during the day and took care of the house at night. How my mother and father got together, I don't know. My dad was six foot tall and my mother was very short. My mother was several years older than my dad. 1907 was the Russian-Japanese War and my dad left the country and came to America. [The war lasted, in fact, from February 1904 to November 1905].



Traditional Lathe

JR: He went to Erie.

M: My mother's younger sister married a man who came to America and my aunt and her husband came to America. She went to Erie, Pennsylvania, because that's where his brother was, in the fish business. He was a fish dealer.

JR: What were their names?

M: Their name was Katowitz. So my dad had some place to go and he came to Erie. That's where the relatives were and the climate was close to what it was in Russia. Well, anyhow, the climate didn't matter.

A: Being next to your family.

M: He didn't worry and he had someplace to stay. My dad worked in a factory on West 12th Street in Erie as a lathe operator. He left there and got a horse [See Joseph Radov with Huckster, A73-74] and a wagon and went into business for himself picking up scrap and peddling fruit. He saved enough money to bring my mother over and she brought over a niece, Ida, who was my dad's sister, and his two children, two sons, Sam, the oldest, Samuel, and Gustave, who was the second oldest. They came to Erie.

JR: The other four children had passed away in Europe?

M: Yes. But my father made a life in America. My dad was energetic and he saved enough money to bring the family over. Then things progressed and, after WWI, my dad had an ice cream parlor on 21st and State and a fruit market next door. He managed to make enough money to go back to Europe for three months to bring his family and other people. He brought 21 people over. Kept them there for three months. [See Bucharest and its Consul, A93-98].

A: He took them across several borders.

M: He had to buy his way across every border, from Russia to France. Then he brought them over here and had to guarantee the government that he would keep them and they would not be a burden on the government and they would have a job and have food and lodging. My dad did that. In fact, my older brother, Gus, became an accountant and he said that my dad went broke. He must have spent at least \$40,000. In those days, that was a huge amount of money. He spent it all in three months to keep them there and here.

JR: In 1922, when they came, how old were you?



Raful, Muni, Bill and Menya Carol

M: I was 6 years old. Now my grandfather, my grandmother, two brothers, Morris and his wife, Peter and his wife, Menya and her kids, I meant Mrs. Carl, that's the third sister and her children, Mrs. Bass and her husband and one child, and several other people all came. Some of the people stayed in New York. They had relatives or whatever it was, they stayed in New York. Some of them came to Erie. My dad's two brothers came to Erie. My dad tried to help them to make a living. They had market houses in those days, no supermarket. My dad was in the produce business and he set them up with stands. The older brother, Peter, was considerably older, because he was from the first wife. The younger one, Morris, was much younger and he was energetic. In fact, he was a Captain in the Tsar's Army. He saved Peter's life. Peter, the older one, had a livery stable. He would take the commodities from the railroad track [see Fastov, A71-72] and deliver it to warehousing. He had horses and wagons.



Esther Radov

A: In America?

M: In Europe. When the communists or Bolsheviks took over, they were going to kill him and his wife. So his younger brother [Morris] said to them, "Hey, I'm one of you, why do you want to kill my brother? You want his horses and wagons. Take them."

JR: But Morris was in the Tsar's Army?

M: He switched.

JR: Oh, he switched.

M: He [Morris P. Radov] switched sides to try to keep alive. He had to switch sides.

JR: Why don't you take a break, so mom could talk about her family in Russia. You have your adoptive parents. We don't know the story of your birth parents, because you were adopted at less than a week. [See Jews, Adoption & Radovs, A121-122].

A: I was born in the Hungarian Hospital, it was a charity hospital.

JR: Somehow, with the help of your family doctor, Dr. Goldstein, your parents were willing to adopt you.

A: My adoptive parents were even on my birth certificate.

JR: Where were they from?



1900 Kiev

A: They were from Kiev. My mother's family had an appetizing store, which means all kinds of delicacies, pickles, caviar, and all that kind of stuff. Her mother and father worked together in that appetizing store. The children, my mother and her sisters and brothers, were left at home with a nurse. The house was always in the back of the store. My adoptive dad, Grandpa Izzy, originally lived a couple blocks away from my mother, so they knew each other growing up, but they didn't pay too much attention to each other.

JR: What was your mother's maiden name?

A: Horabetski. But she chose the name of Khufa, when she came here.

JR: Your mother's family was not religious.

A: Well, she knew she was Jewish. My mother was very well educated. She read Russian, she read Yiddish, she read American papers. My father and mother both went to my school.

JR: In America.

A: In America and got their diplomas and became citizens.

JR: How did you meet?

A: I met him [Morris] in Franklin. I met him at Paul Wesley Blau's briss.

JR: Paul Wesley Blau was the child of your [Morris'] first cousin, Bertha Halperin Blau. Did you come there from Meadville?

A: We came from Erie, with Morris's aunt.

JR: Which aunt?

A: Aunt Cherna. That's where we stayed when we visited.

JR: Let's go back to Joe's family. What was he doing in the 1920s?



Paul Blau - 1955



Cherna Thompson

M: First, we moved back into the produce business. My oldest brother, Sam, married a cousin [Betty], actually she was a first cousin, from New York. Her father was one of the first wife's children, my grandfather's first wife. Sam and his daughter Betty met and they wanted to get married. They had to get permission from the Rabbis to get married.

JR: What about Joe's business?

M: During the 1920s, my dad had a Kosher restaurant, at 1216 State St., Erie, on the second and third floor. My mother and aunt, Peter's wife [Esther], were the cooks. A Kosher restaurant at that time didn't do too well. I want to tell you what happened, what kind of a restaurant it was upstairs and downstairs. In those days, we had Prohibition.

JR: When did the Prohibition begin?



Morris J. Radov

M: In 1921 and it lasted until 1933. When I was a kid, 10 or 11 years old, upstairs on the third floor, a lot of the men had poker games and they would take from the pot. They played poker. I would bring them sandwiches and beer and they would tip me from the pot. During one winter, my mother used to scream that I stayed up there with them. But I made \$400. \$400 in those days was a mint. I used to stay there to 12:00 or 1:00. I could hardly get up to go to school the



Barney B. Radov

next day. I would split the money with my brother, Barney [B.]. I gave him half. Later, we closed the restaurant. We had a speakeasy up there, too. You talk about the movies. We had a steel door with a lock on it, a handle lock, and this is on the third floor and there were huge steps, but people would come up there. We had a little bar, we had a slot machine in the bar. These were the speakeasy days. I can say more about that, but I shall not do that on a recording.

JR: The statute of limitations has expired. I know you also manufactured bootleg.

M: May I go back a little further? Let's go back to when I was 5 years old. We lived on 21st Street, between French and Holland. This is something you should put on the record, because it is unusual. It shows the way of life. These people were trying to make a living. They're not alcoholics. In the city of Erie, there were a few people who were in the whiskey business. One was Meyer Gold. He lived on the other side of 21st Street. He had a speed boat. It would go to Canada. It had twin Packard engines in it. It would outrun the Coast Guard by miles. They would bring whiskey from Canada, across Lake Erie. The unloading was way up east at a farmer's farm, who was paid. He had a huge cliff. Nobody would ever think he was bringing whiskey up that cliff, but they did. The boat could not land there, so they brought it in on a small skiff and they would unload it and took it in trucks and brought it to Erie. The processions of trucks were led in from Northeast to Erie by a city policeman, Carl Altoff, on a motorcycle. I was a kid and this Carl Altoff would sit in my mother's kitchen and he would let me hold his .45 revolver. I used to play with it. There were no bullets in it, of course. I knew Carl Altoff. He was a great guy. He led the procession into Erie. My dad originally had a horse named Charley. He had a stall and a barn in the back of the house and a chicken coup where mother raised chickens. We had a Jewish contractor across the street, Harry Wexler. He tore down the barn and the chicken coups and we built four garages, four beautiful garages. Now, at that time, my dad had a Reo truck. This garage was unique. This garage had four stalls, three feet from the back and inside was a partition. It had an electric door on it. In order to get in, you had to know where the switch was. I knew where the switch was. I was just a little fellow, but in those days, when they told you, this was to be kept secret, there was no question that you don't say anything, because people's lives depended on it. We could unload this whiskey in back of this garage. To get to this electric switch, you had to take the shelves out. With one shelf, you could put your finger in and hit the electric switch. It would open up the door. We could carry the whiskey in, put it inside 36 inches, just enough to fit the case. That was one of the storage places. Let me tell you something. My oldest brother, Sam, he wasn't good in school, because he quit school when he was young, but he was a worker.



Reo Truck

A: But he was a wise guy. That's why he wasn't good in school. He was a smart man.

M: In 1928, my dad bought Sam a brand new Nash. We had that Nash reconverted. In between the frames was a steel trough. My brother Sam would take the seats out. He could put this whiskey back in the straw in these things. You could look at the car all week and not tell what was in it. We used to sell it. Sam was a terrific salesman on this stuff. In fact, we sold whiskey to the President of the Bank of Titusville, because I went with Sam to deliver it. This man in Titusville had two Rolls Royces in his garage and he bought his niece a Rolls Royce. He wanted his Canadian whiskey. [The same kind of whiskey that Sam was later charged in federal court with selling. See Bootlegging Case, A29-31].



Sam Radov - 1925



Presque Isle State Park

JR: Titusville was wealthy because it was once the home of the oil industry. It had very wealthy people.

M: This one day, Sam loaded the car and he said to me, "You're going with me." I had been to the peninsula [Presque Isle State Park] and I had a sunburn on my back. The Nash had mohair. I said, "What do you mean, I'm going with you?" He says, "You're going with me tonight." He said, "It's better if you sit next to me with this whiskey in the car." It's 1928. I'm 12 years old. This is 12:00 midnight. Sam said, "Get in the car." I didn't have nothing. No clothes. "You don't need it. I'll bring you back." Bring me back? There were no roads in those days except Route 20. The roads were mostly brick. We went from Erie to Buffalo to Rochester to Syracuse, day and night, all night. Sam was the only driver. We wound up in Hartford, Connecticut. We stopped at a red light and Sam was sleeping. He drove over 600 miles. Then we went to a drug store, and the pharmacist bought the whiskey. Sam got his money and we drove from Hartford to New York. I was sunburned and ached all over. He got to his sister-in-law, Minnie Cohen's, house in the Bronx. He said to me, "You're going to stay here for a few days." I said, "What are you talking about? I'm 12 years

old and I don't have a nickel." He gave me a few pennies and he left me there. Minnie had to wash my clothes. She had to give me her husband, Jack's, clothes. I went all over the town. For a nickel, I went to the Lower East Side. I found Cherna, my dad's sister, and their family. I saw Leka [Lena] Smith and her family, my father's niece, Menya's daughter. They put me up for the night. When I put my hand under the pillow and bed bugs bit me, I went running out of the bed. This was not at Minnie's house. Minnie had a husband named Jack. He was the greatest guy. He was a printer. Always had partners in Manhattan. They were well-to-do. They owned their own house, renters upstairs. They were the greatest people. I don't remember when Sam came back and got me. Can I go a little further?

JR: Please do.

M: I've got to tell you what happened during the Depression. This Nash deal couldn't be made any more. It fell apart. How, I don't remember. My mother had two brothers who came over and lived on the second floor of our house. My mother married them off and they moved out. My brother Sam said he was going to make whiskey. Even our doctor, Dr. McCarthy, loved the whiskey he made. My brother Gus was an accountant. He was getting jobs downtown. He was keeping the family.

JR: You were now struggling to pay the bills?

M: Terribly.

JR: All this bootlegging: it didn't make you rich.

M: No, no, no, no. We're just trying to keep our heads above water.

JR: You say your parents lost your house.

M: We lost the house to the bank, but the bank was very good to my parents, because we were very good customers. They said, "We know everyone's losing. Keep your house. Do what you can." So my dad kept the house. We were in the produce business. The Depression came in. We were not in the whiskey business. We were in the produce business. We had a stall in the French Street Market, near 12th. Sam would take this Reo truck and go to Cleveland in the morning and buy produce and come back. We built an icebox in the garage. We carried 100 pound cakes from the truck to the loft to keep the produce fresh.

JR: Cakes of ice?



Chicken Cock Whiskey

M: 100 pound cakes of ice. My dad would supply the other people in the market house with produce. Sam would go to Cleveland to the Commission House on 40th and Woodland, and he would take me with him to help. Sam knew how to buy. The best account in Erie was the Erie Restaurant. They were two Greek brothers [Tom and Louis Galanos. They would treat M.P., my father and me like royalty when, almost every Saturday in the 1960s, we had lunch there], and Sam was their best friend. But the people in the market house didn't pay their bills. So my dad went broke. That's when we went back to Sam making whiskey.

JR: At your house?

M: Our house was an old farmhouse. The back staircase was narrow. Two people couldn't go up it. Just enough for a barrel to go through. We took those barrels up into the second room. We built racks. We built drawers. Sam went to Buffalo. Buffalo was the hot spot for that. We got manufactured bottles with the name Chicken Cock, the name of a Canadian whiskey. [See Chicken Cock Whiskey, A86-88]. We had empty bottles and all the paraphernalia. These were oak barrels. I think they held 40 gallons apiece. We had water upstairs, but you could not open the window. We worked in the two rooms, no windows, because the odor would give it away. We would buy ethyl alcohol, pure, 180 proof alcohol. In fact, on 23rd Street, they used to make the alcohol. My uncle Morris, in Brown's basement, they used to have a still. [Brown was Sam's co-defendant in *U.S. v. Radov*, Bootlegging Case, A29-31].

M: Keep going.

A: He wants to know more about you, Morris.

M: Okay. I'll tell him later.

JR: No. Keep going.

M: We would make it from the alcohol, dilute it in the barrel, and the barrels would sit for a couple weeks. We had to rotate the barrels back and forth. We washed the bottles. It was the best whiskey you ever saw. We had a filter, we had 3 different kinds of filters.

JR: Dad, maybe something else.

M: I'll tell you, anyhow, I've got to tell you. We had hydrometers, we had filters, we had everything. We put out a package in a steel container, we had a machine to roll the steel in and we put out the greatest package you ever saw.

JR: In 1933, Prohibition ended, right?

M: In 1933, Prohibition ended and we had ended it before.

JR: Before?



Gus Radov

M: We ended it before. My dad and brother went to California to sell neckties and my dad came back and my brother stayed there. It didn't work out. My dad came back and he started to buy my brother, Gus, had an account who was a pawn broker - and they taught my dad how to buy a little gold in 1933. My dad started to buy a little gold. It was the greatest thing he ever did because he was a natural salesman, a buyer and a salesman.

JR: And then he would go around...

M: Door to door and they sent him from one to the other. My dad would take a gold watch and put a gold filled case on it and the people would get \$20 and in those days on \$20 they could live for 3 weeks or a month.

JR: Was it mostly from upstate New York?

M: Then he went upstate New York.

JR: Okay.



Joe Radov

M: But first, he started in Erie where they taught him, but Erie was not a good spot for him. I'll tell you, my dad, when everybody else was making \$10-\$20 a week, he was bringing back \$100, \$200, \$500 a week.

JR: In that period.

M: In that period and boy, we just blossomed. Then that thing went out.

JR: Why? Was it illegal to buy gold?

M: No, it was still legal, but the price was only \$35 an ounce. My dad had a case and he could test it [the gold content]. Anyhow, by that time, my uncle was established in the scrap business.

JR: Uncle Morris.

M: Uncle Morris. I went to work, well let me say this, it was the Depression, 1930. My brother Barney graduated from high school in 1930. He got a scholarship to Temple University. He went there, but my dad had very little money to send him. I didn't have any money. I went to work for a friend at 24th between State and Peach. On the hill was a place where my dad's friend had a basket factory making 8 quart and 12 quart baskets for the market house. He gave me a job right after school, from 3:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. The women, he had quite a few women working there. They taught me how to take the wet wood and interlace it to make a basket. I had an anvil and I would put the tacks, steel tacks, and then hit it with a hammer. I got 50¢ a day for 3 hours. So that's what I had for lunch money. My uncle, at that time, he was broke.



Barney B. Radov

JR: Your uncle was broke then?

M: This was going back a couple years, in 1930, 31, my uncle, who had been working, got out of the produce business and went to work in the scrap yard with Dave Gabin, learned the business and went in for himself. The Second National Bank, he had a few dollars and then went broke. Everybody was not like guaranteed today. Everybody lost their money. The only thing he had, Morris Radov – my uncle, his name was Morris P., Fishel, Philip, and his wife had an insurance policy with a cash value of \$800. They borrowed the \$800 and he bought this little scrap yard at 19th and Parade. It had a little tiny wagon scale in it.

A: [Returning to the room]. How much did you get paid working at the factory?

JR: We covered that.

M: 50¢ I got a day. He said listen, "I'll give you \$2 a week. Come to work for me. I need somebody that can write and make the bills out." So I said to my mother, I don't want to go work in that dirty old scrap yard. She said, "Go try it." So I left the basket factory and I went to work for him and I started to work from 3:00 in the afternoon, I went home, got a glass of milk and a cookie or something and went to work and walked to 19th and Parade, starting ringing up customers and making out bills and paying checks and so on and so forth. And from 3:00 in the afternoon until about 7:00-8:00 at night, the fact that we were low on batteries with flashlights, my mother would scream she had dinner on the stove. But I worked for him for 2 years. Oh, and the \$2 that I got, I sent to my brother, Barney. He didn't have nothing there. My dad would give me little bits of gold at lunch. Anyhow, most of the time I just lucky to cash a check. I'd sign the check and send it to my brother.

JR: But it was more than 2 years.

M: I stayed with Morris from 1931 until 1936.

JR: When did you finish high school?

M: I finished high school in 1933.



Erie YMCA

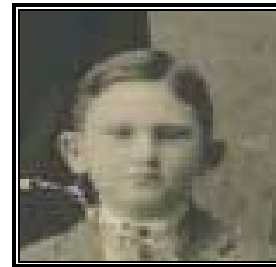
A: How old were you?

M: I was 16. At night, after I got through working, I would go grab a bite and then go to night school, Penn State extension school down at the YMCA at 10th and Peach. I studied business administration and accounting. I did that for 3 years, from 1933 to 1936. That was quite a chore, to work like a dog all day in the heat and the sweat, and then go down and try to make a 7:00 class. Most of the time I didn't. It was tough.

JR: You actually started driving when you were working for Morris. You started driving a truck.

M: Not on the road. When I was 16, I bought several trucks for him before, but I didn't drive them on the highway, because I didn't have any license.

JR: So in 1936, you quit working for Uncle Morris so you could go to school.



Morris Radov – 1925

M: Go to school. What I actually wanted to do was to learn chemistry and become an ingot maker, but it didn't work out.

JR: Okay.

M: You know, while I was at Morris's business, I built him a ramp, increased his production from a half a [rail] car, to a car and a half a day to ship. I bought him Mack trucks with solid tired wheels. We bought 3,000 ton of steel rails, cut them up and chopped them up.

A: You signed checks for him.

M: Oh, I signed more checks than he did. He signed them and the bank wouldn't cash the checks. I used to make out the payroll, make out everything and my brother Gus was his accountant. So I followed Gus's order. I paid everybody by cash and by check. I signed his name to everything. We did more things in those Depression days than you would ever think of today. I drove through snow storms that could only go through telegraph poles. Route 7 in Ohio was a two-lane highway and I had to go from Erie to Youngstown to get a check so we could make the payroll.



Allegheny College, Meadville, PA

JR: So in 1936, you went to school.

M: Yes, in 1936 at night I went.

JR: Where did you go?

M: I told you, Penn State extension school.

JR: So in 1936 you did that?



Barney Halperin

M: In 1936, no, I went to Allegheny. I came here and Barney Halperin was here going to school.

JR: Okay. In Meadville.

JR: So you started taking classes at Allegheny.

M: I only took two classes: both in chemistry.

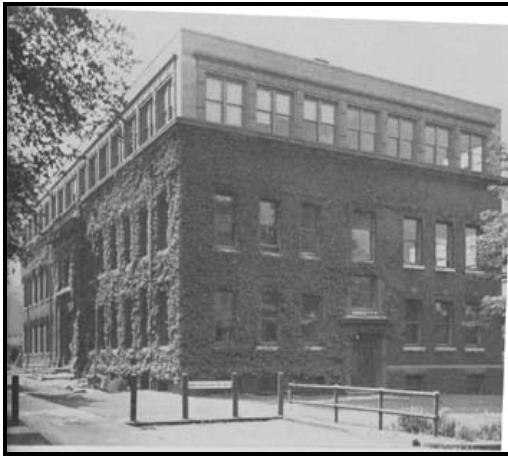
A: You came in as a special student.

M: I never took freshman chemistry. I was put in qualitative analysis and organic chemistry. In the first six weeks, I didn't know what the hell the professor was talking about. I was a scrap man. What the hell did I know about chemistry? I had high school chemistry and I was good at it. I liked it.

JR: Then what did you do?

M: After 6 weeks, I caught on as to what they were talking about. I got a B in the subject. [Laughs]. That was good. I went to work that summer for my uncle. I would drive the semi-trailers from Erie to Cleveland to buy.

A: All because you didn't have money to continue.

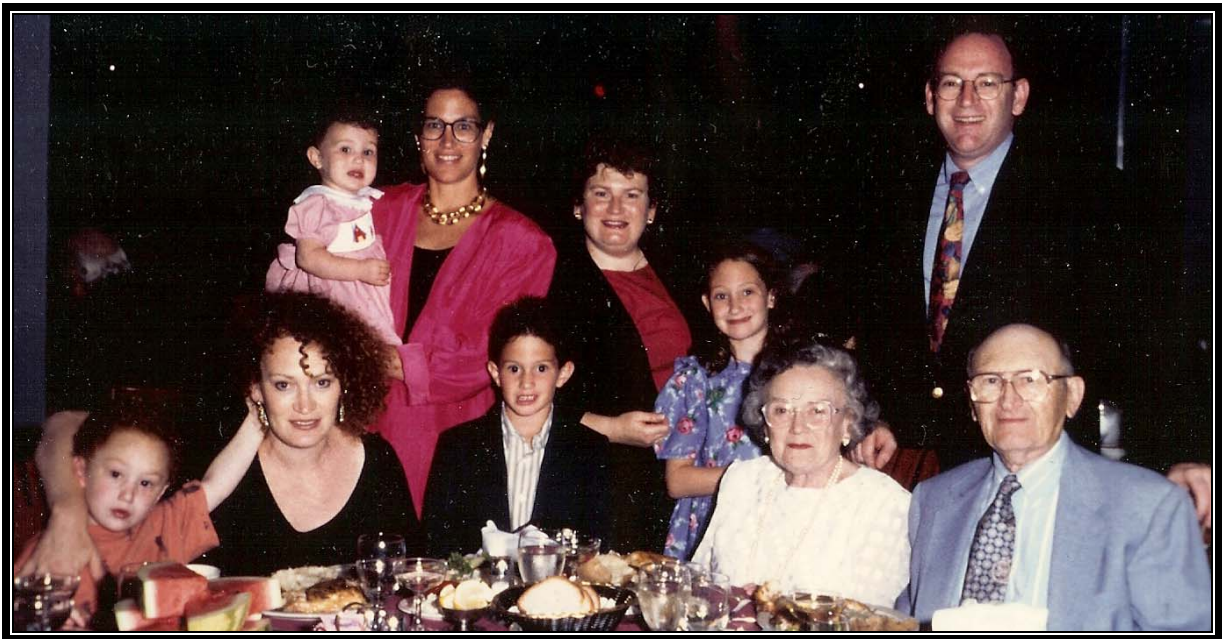


Case Metallurgical Department

M: No. I got a job. He let me make some money. To go [to college], I needed to work. I saved up some money, about \$750. I tried to get into the Case School of Applied Science. They said, "We don't have bad engineers." [Laughing]. "You have to start as a freshman." I said, "I don't have money to be a freshman." So I went downtown. There was a little school called Fenn College [now Cleveland State University]. It had a metallurgical department and 5 young men in the class. So they took me in. I had metallurgy, metallography and they stuck me in industrial electricity.

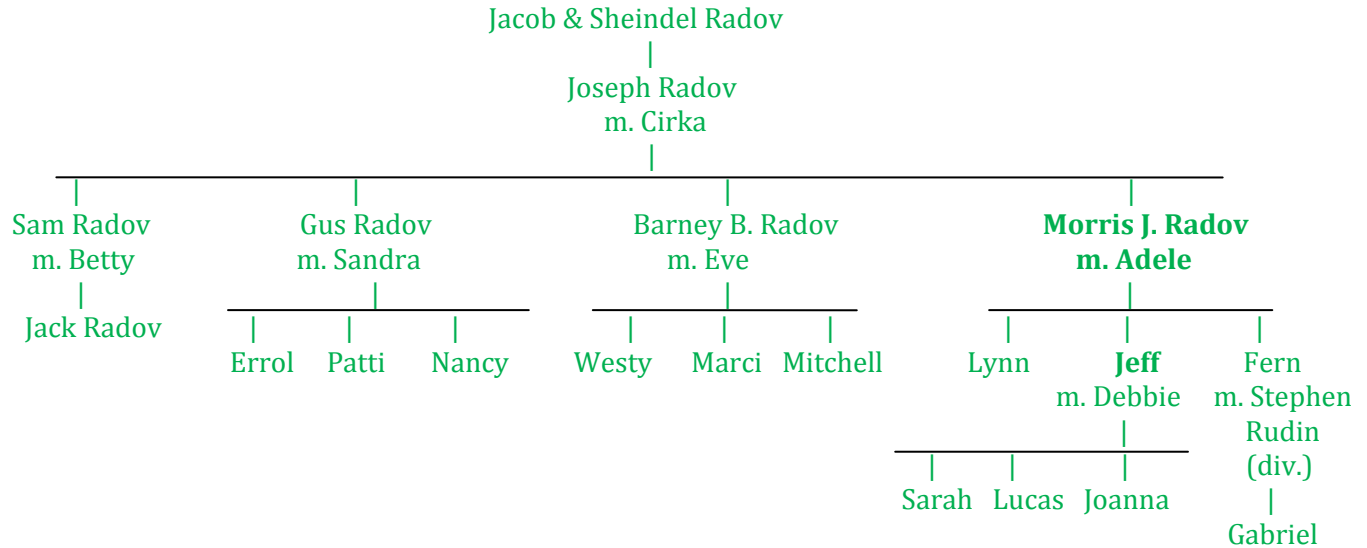
JR: Right.

M: I had 22 hours of lecture a week. I really worked on Monday nights. I went down to Cleveland Trade School and I learned foundry practice. Sandcasting. I learned how to sandcast in a flask. Pretty good at it. [Laughing].



Back row: Debbie holding Joanna, Lynn, Sarah and Jeff Radov
Front row: Gabriel and Fern Rudin, Lucas, Adele and Morris J. Radov

MORRIS, ADELE AND JEFF RADOV



Second tape of Conversation among Morris J. Radov [1916-2003], Adele Radov [1924-2011] and Jeff Radov on June 29, 2002, at 237 Jefferson St., Meadville, PA.



Cleveland YMCA

JR: How did you live in Cleveland?

M: Well, when I went to Fenn College, I had just \$5 a week to live on. I got a room in the dormitory. There was a townhouse on 22nd and Euclid that the school took over because somebody was going to make a town club out of it, but the secretary ran away with the money, so they were broke, so the school took it over. Anyhow, I had a room on the 10th floor, a room with maid service, telephone, our own bath for \$2.50 a week and a parking lot. I had \$2.50 to eat; 10 cents was two donuts and coffee at the YMCA. Lunchtime, another guy and I would go down across the street to the grocery store and get a loaf of bread and peanuts and jelly and a bottle of milk, to share between us. That was lunch. Once a week, I could spend 40 cents down at 9th Street, between Euclid and Chester, at the Forum Cafeteria. We could get meatloaf, potatoes and so on for 40 cents. We'd walk down there and get it once a week. 65 cents I had to spend to get back to Erie in my little car. I had a two

passenger Chevrolet car. I drove that thing from Cleveland to Erie every week. My brother Gus would give me gas to go back to Cleveland. One of his clients would go and he would fill my tank. Anyhow, that's how I got through. Then when I got through with school, I didn't have enough money. I had to go to the Cleveland Engineering Society to borrow \$100 to finish the semester. They wanted my little insurance policy, so I gave them my insurance policy. They gave me \$100 to finish. I got back to Erie and I had no job. I had no job. Meyer Prosser wanted me to take over his overall company, but he said, "You're going to leave me." I said, "Yea, I'm going to leave you. I'm going back to school." He said, "No, I want you to stay. I'll give you the whole place on stake, because I know you're good man." I said, "I know that. I'll take care of you." But he didn't give me the job. I had nothing to do and I couldn't get a job. My Uncle Morris didn't have enough work for me.

A: Well, they gave a job to your brother, Barney.

M: His son was there [Barney R.] and my brother Barney [B.] was there and there was nothing for me to do. So Morris thought I could work for Wilcoff Company at the time. He said "There's a man in Meadville who wants to sell his scrap yard. Come on, take a ride with me." So I rode with him down to Meadville and the guy from Wilcoff said "Give me \$500 and I'll give you the key." I said, "OK, I'll stay here a year and I'll go back to school."



Barney R. Radov - 1943

JR: In 1939?

M: 1938 or 1939. So I didn't have the \$500. I went to the Security Peoples Bank in Erie and they said "Morris take \$1,000. You can't just have \$500. Take \$1,000." I said, "I'm only going to be there a year and then I'll sell it."

JR: So you bought the yard.

M: Well, what happened was, this guy in Erie wanted to put his brother-in-law, a window cleaner, in the business and he got mad at me. He wanted to buy the yard, because it was a customer, but the owner never gave it to him. So I bought it. So I went over to him in Erie and I said to him, "I didn't want to take your customer away. I didn't know you wanted it. All I want to do is go back to school." He said, "I know what you paid for it." I said, "I paid \$500. Give me \$1,000 and here's the key." He said, "I'll chase you out of the town." I said, "You greedy little bastard, my dad thought good of you. You'll never chase me out of town." He went and I was left. It was unfortunate what happened, but I knew the scrap business and I had to move from their plant. He bought the building and I had to move and started down where it is now.

JR: He went after you legally and bought the building that you were in. So you had to move the business. You bought a little business. You got a little crane, with a wooden clutch.

M: An old oak crane and just a little tiny shoe was cracked. I moved into an old wooden building. The Bessemer Lake Erie railroad, the agent showed me where it was, and I rented this building and they fixed it up for \$35 a month and I started there.

JR: You made a lot of money in the beginning, right?

M: Nothing. It was a swamp. It flooded two, three times a year.

JR: That was on French Creek.



French Creek

M: On French Creek.

JR: So you didn't make money, you didn't go back to school right away and then the Second World War broke out.

M: True.

JR: What did you want to do?

M: They were advertising that they needed five men to go to North Africa to get the scrap and bring it back. So I went to Pittsburgh and took a physical. Three times, I had to go take a physical. My draft board, I was single at that time and when I signed in, I signed in Erie. I applied, but I wasn't quite qualified to take this job. I applied for it anyhow, in Erie, but they wouldn't let me go because there were 15 essential categories and the scrap business was 14th. They had essential businesses for the war and I said, "I've got to close this business, because I don't have anybody to leave it to." They said, "Oh, let your dad do it." I said, "My dad can't do it." They said, "Let your relatives run it." I said, "There's nobody here." "Let your foreman do it." I said, "What are you talking about? He doesn't know how to write a checkbook or nothing." I said, "You either leave me here or let me close the business, one of the two." They would not let me close. So they said, whatever the department was, they wouldn't let me close the plant. So I put on scrap guys in the Crawford County. I put on paper drives and I shipped the scrap, whatever they wanted, to the steel mills, whatever the War Production Board said. Finally, the Production Board came in and they said to me "Well, you're eligible to go into the Army now." I said, "What are you talking about?" He said, "We need somebody to watch the Japanese." I said, "You think I'm going to go watch Japanese? After sweating this thing out the whole war, now you want me to close the plant and go." I said, "No, no, no." So I didn't do it. I

got married and then, I don't know what happened, they didn't take married men. I didn't go into the service.

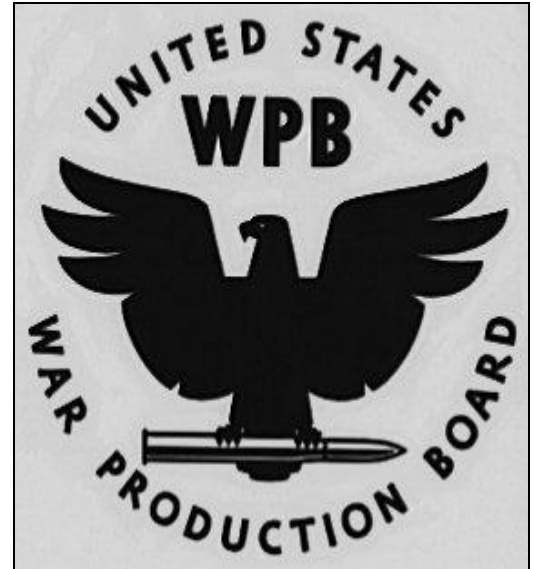
A: Then you were too old.

JR: So during the war, the scrap business wasn't a good business.

M: Terrible. We scrapped things at the lowest price. We never got more than \$20 a ton. The freight was \$2.08. All I had was old men. I worked my hair off and I couldn't do nothing.

JR: After the war, the economy was great.

M: 1946. The OPA [Office of Price Administration] went off. The same scrap I was selling for \$20 a ton went to \$120 a ton, or \$90 a ton, \$80 a ton. Then we started to make some money. Then I started to be able to get some help. Then I started buying equipment and then I could do something. I bought the place that I had for the simple reason it had railroad tracks in there. In those days you couldn't ship by truck to a mill. They couldn't get into the mill, only trains. So I had 1500 feet of track, one on each side of my yard. And I was the second best customer for the Bessemer Lake Erie Railroad. They gave me everything.



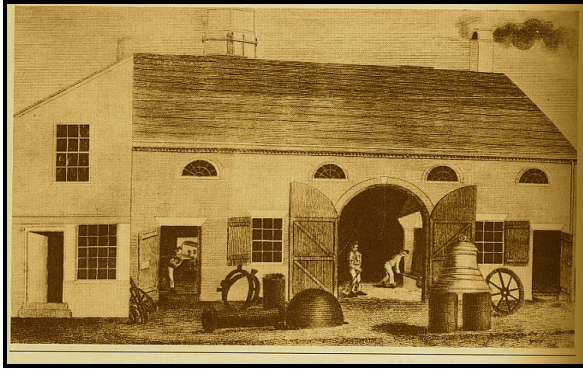
War Production Board

JR: So you had those rail lines that you could put scrap onto.

M: Every night, I would take two trucks and go down to the railroad crane and you could give the crane operator a \$5.00 bill and he would give you the ashes from the cranes, from the locomotives and from this and that. But then the railroad got wise and they stopped it. But by that time I had filled in all the swamp. My whole yard was filled.

JR: There is no statute of limitations on ruining nature.

M: In England, International Nickel Company made ductile iron. What happened was the laminated carbon that I took seconds, and sold it to them. They wanted more money, based on their share of the patent at a foundry, so decided to go to Niagara Falls and I bought magnesium copper shot. I made ductile iron at a foundry in Oklahoma [interestingly, in a single generation, moving from apprentice to a foundry owner (Morris' father, Joe) to the son being an owner himself], but the Korean War along and the thing went apart. We never got enough orders and it was losing too much money. The foundry was losing \$500 to \$600 a week.



Traditional Brass Foundry

JR: But you kept the scrap yard through the whole process. When did you sell the scrap yard?

M: I sold the scrap yard 40 years to the day that I bought it.

JR: So you sold it in 1979.

M: 1979, November 1. You didn't want it.

JR: No, I wanted to try other things and my sisters didn't want to be here.

A: You could leave it to your grandsons. [All laugh].

JR: What did your father do in the last part of his working career?



Morris & Adele with grandchildren - 1996



CBS Cemetery, Erie

M: Well, In the 1930s, my dad was a very big worker in the City of Erie. He didn't have the most money but, from the Bishop to the Mayor and everybody, he was a front man for the Jewish community. He was very, very good at it. He found this place in the City of Erie on 32nd and State and built a Jewish Center. Also, he built the CBS Cemetery [Congregation *Brith Sholom*], where he is today. [See CBS Old Building & Cemetery, A99-107].

A: That's where he's buried with his wife.

M: Yes. But he moved the cemetery from one place to there and that was way way out in the country. When I was a kid it used to take hours to get there and now it's just minutes. But the CBS Cemetery is still there and that's where her [Adele's] mother and father are buried and my mother and father are buried. My brothers are buried there. I am the last of the Mohicans.

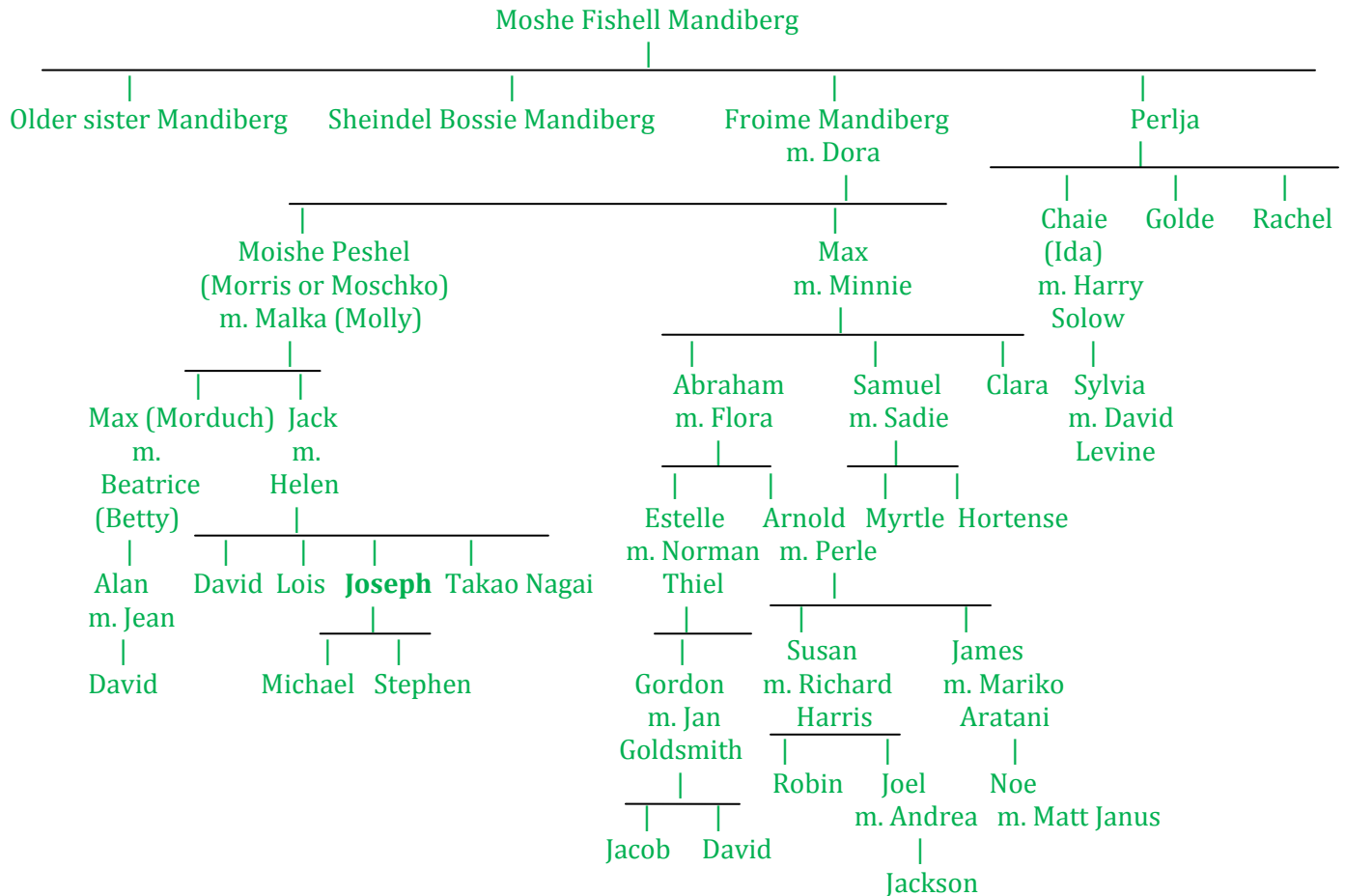
A: I must tell you. I never went to a funeral in my life until I went to father-in-law's funeral. The funeral was so big that they couldn't have it in the funeral parlor. So they moved the funeral to the Temple, to the Jewish Center in Erie, which is large. There were over 500 people that attended. The Bishop of Erie came, the Mayor and

several other big dignitaries that were not Jewish. Plus, other non-Jewish friends and Jewish friends, of course. I saw a kneeling stool near the coffin, people coming up and kneeling, saying a prayer, in front of my father-in-law, who was laid out of his casket: I couldn't believe my eyes. He had such a big funeral.



Back row: Debbie Radov, Fern Rudin, Lynn, Adele and Jeff Radov
Front row: Joanna Radov, Gabriel Rudin, Sarah and Lucas Radov

JOSEPH MANDIBERG



Joseph Mandiberg; Conversation with Joel Levin – Monday, August 1, 2011

J: Let's go back. Your parents were Jack and Helen.



Helen and Jack Mandiberg

JM: Jack Mandiberg and Helen, yes. My father was from New York City and my mother Detroit.

J: Did you ever meet your father's father?

JM: My father's father was Morris. I met him only on one occasion – actually twice. In the early 50s, he came to Detroit with his wife Molly, and I have no recollection of them per say, other than remembering a picture of them at the Henry Ford Museum. We took a trip, I think it was 1954, to New York to stay with my father's best friends. We went down to Patterson and stayed with them a day. They had a delicatessen in Patterson, New Jersey at that point. My grandfather Morris flew in to see my father

in Detroit in 1956. He had a pulmonary embolus on the airplane and died in Detroit. I have great remembrance of that because we were farmed out to my aunt's house when this happened. Otherwise, my grandmother Molly had died by then, so I have no recollection.

J: Do you know where your grandfather, Morris, was born?

JM: I don't know. I don't have any of that information.

J: Do you know when was he born?

JM: My father had one brother, Max. He was older than my father. My father was born in 1913, at least 25 years before that. So it's at least 25 or 30 years before that. Max was probably 5 or 6 years older than my father.

J: Your father was born in New York?

JM: Yes. He was born in New York City.

J: Was your Uncle Max also born in New York?

JM: Yes.



Shtetl Housing

J: But your grandfather was born in Russia?

JM: Yes. That's my understanding, yes. Both of them. I don't know where, though, in Russia.

J: It appears they might have lived in either Makarov, Yekaterinoslav or Fastov. I am happy to email you what I have.

JM: Oh yes, please do. By the way I have another cousin named Jean. She's a professor at Evergreen University in Olympia, Washington. I just left message on the phone because I don't know if she has any recollection. Her father passed away. I'm not sure if her mother is still alive. If her mother is still alive, you may some ability to get some information.

J: It's your cousin.

JM: See, Mandiberg can be spelled two ways, with an *i* or with an *e*. Mandiberg or Mandeberg. Mitchell spelled it with an *e* and so Jeanie spells it with an *e*, but we're cousins. But how the cousins are related, I don't know the answer. We'll try and see if Jeanie knows the answer to that question. There's also a cousin here called Suzie Mandiberg and I will call Susan and get as much information as I can. Susan is a professor of law at Lewis & Clark College.



Susan Mandiberg

J: What is Susan's last name?

JM: Mandiberg, with an *i*. I didn't know I had a cousin, Susan Mandiberg, until I moved here in 1978. My father came in. The first thing he did was look through the phone book and see if there was another Mandiberg, and there was another Mandiberg. We called her up and said we're related, but I don't know how and so we went out to dinner with her. I see her on occasion here, and she has a side of her family that she probably knows more about that.

J: You have no idea when your grandfather came over?

JM: No, I have no idea. You know, I've never gone through that business with looking on the Ellis Island business. We can probably pick it up on that can't we?

J: Yes. It's a pain in the butt. The answer is yes, if you're patient, although a lot of the early Ellis Island stuff was all handwritten until they had people transcribe it, with the reading of the handwriting inaccurate. Mandiberg may turn into Vandiberg and you won't necessarily pick it up. There are also widely different spellings. Those who came over, I don't know how good they were about writing English or even Russian. They knew Yiddish. The men knew Hebrew and everybody spoke Russian, but I'm not sure of their fluency with the Cyrillic alphabet. As for transcriptions, the Old Russian is different than new Russian and hardly anybody knows Old Russian. It's more of a pain than you might think.



University of Michigan Medical School

JM: [Laughing].

J: One Mandiberg, my great grandmother, is buried in Erie, Pennsylvania and as I say, Bertha Blau remembers going to the delicatessen – she thought there may have been two, one in New York and one in Patterson.

JM: Right. There was one in New York. My recollection is my father was a partner in the Gaiety Delicatessen back in the 1920s. [This was the famous New York Deli of Broadway song fame. See The Gaiety Delicatessen, A67-68]. That's just total recollection of something in the 30, 40, 50 year past. But my father was born in the city and there's actually some pictures that I have of him when he graduated from high school at 15½, went to Columbia for 2 years, and then transferred to the University of Michigan, and then went 2 years at the University of Michigan. He then went to medical school and finished medical school when he was in his early 20s. Around the time he was in medical school or when he transferred to U. of M., the family moved to Patterson, New Jersey, and opened a delicatessen there. That's the delicatessen that I went to in the 50s. When he died, my uncle basically ran the delicatessen and then it became a liquor store. I have a cousin, Alan Mandiberg. He may be able to give you more information. He is older than I am and he was also from the New Jersey area and may have actually spent time with your cousins, with his aunts.

J: Right. So your family owned the Gaiety Delicatessen?

JM: My grandfather was a partner with other people in the Gaiety Delicatessen, maybe cousins, I'm not sure.

J: The Gaiety is famous. There's a song about it.



Joseph Mandiberg

JM: I don't know if it was or wasn't.

J: There's a Sammy Cahn and Jimmy Van Heusen song. [See The Gaiety Delicatessen, A67-68].

JM: Right. What we're talking about something in the 20s and so it may have been more famous later on. He left that one. I know he left that one because he opened the one when he moved to New Jersey.

J: Did you know the Mandibergs were located in the Kiev area?

JM: I have no idea. It was not a discussion that we had. You learn stuff later on that you should have learned earlier. You should have asked some things. [In fact, Joseph supplemented this with more information, by email. See Joseph Mandiberg Email, A69-70].

J: What language did your grandfather use?

JM: I think he knew Russian, but he spoke Yiddish in the home. He knew Russian. He was from Russia.

J: He never spoke of it?

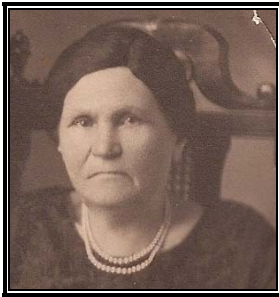
JM: I didn't hear anybody speaking Russian in my family. I know they spoke Yiddish in that household because my mother, who never spoke Yiddish or very little, had to learn it when she met my father.

J: Did they ever mention how they got out of Russia?

JM: No.

J: You say you had some vague recollection that part of the family was in Erie.

JM: I have this recollection that there was family or relations in Erie, in maybe discussions many years ago, and I think we might have even stopped in Erie on the way to friends in New Castle. I think I saw somebody in Erie.



Sheindel Bossie
Mandiberg Radov

J: My great grandmother was Sheindel Bossie Mandiberg Radov. Had you heard her name?

JM: No. Now somebody came to Detroit you said.

J: My mother and my aunt. My mother remembers coming over in the early 70s, my aunt remembers in the 60s. They both remember staying at your parents' cottage.

JM: They stayed at Lake Angelus at the cottage.

J: They both remember freezing there, I mean in a good-natured way, they remember thinking it was cold.

JM: Well, if they stayed in the summertime it wouldn't be cold. If they came in the spring and they went out there for the weekend, it may be cold. [Laughing].

J: So, I think that may have been what they did. Anyway, they had Radov cousins in Detroit.

JM: Okay. Who were the cousins they visited other than maybe us that they visited in Detroit?

J: Barbara Sakol was very ill. She was great, but a few in the family were imperfect.

JM: My Uncle Matt, an inveterate gambler, during that time, was a craps player. My father would tell me during the Depression that he would have \$100,000 in cash

sitting in a trunk in his room, but that he gambled out of and lost it all. He was an indebted gambler his whole life.

J: The one thing my great-grandmother Sheindel Bossie was remembered for when she came to the United States was that day and night she played cards with her grandchildren. That's all she did. My mother remembers them playing cards and speaking Yiddish. In fact, they played cards night and day. So that part of the Mandibergs may be very authentic. They may be estranged.

JM: My father, when he was young, used to go the track all the time, but didn't do that later on in his life.



Michael Mandiberg



Stephen Mandiberg

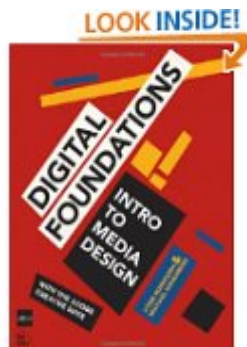
J: Linda is your wife's name?

JM: Right.

J: So, you have a wife and you have how many children?

JM: Two kids.

J: Who are they?



Books by Michael Mandiberg

JM: Stephen and Michael. Michael's the eldest. He's an artist and professor of new media. His brother is Stephen. Michael is 34. Stephen is 31 and he's getting a doctorate in communications at U.C., San Diego. My brother's name is David. I have a sister named Lois. Her name is Lois P. Mandiberg and my brother is David Mandiberg.

J: Thanks.

JM: Bertha remembers my father?

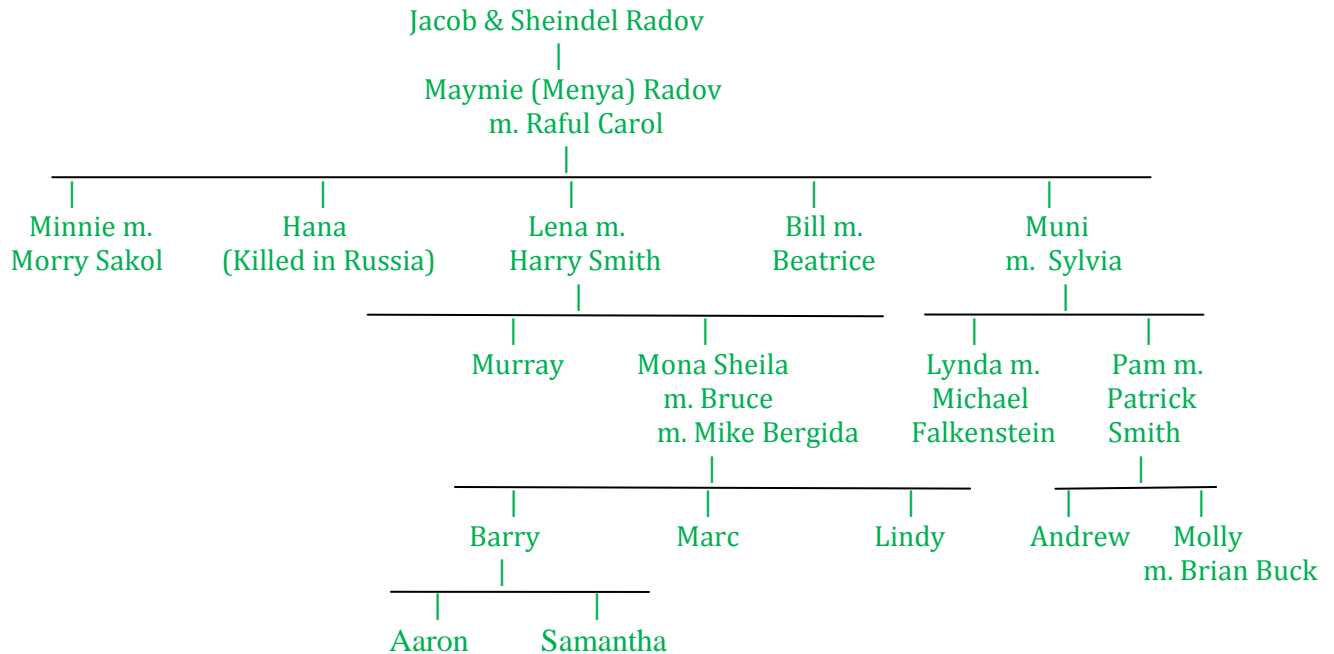
J: Right. As do my mother and my aunt, they all knew your father.

JM: Right. I would ask them if they knew Mitchell. That's the other, the only other Mandiberg that I know from Detroit would be Mitchell, which is my cousin. Through Susan, I'll get at least her father or get her grandfather and she and I can work it out that way.

J: That'd be great. It was great talking to you.

JM: Okay. Goodbye.

LYNDA FALKENSTEIN & PAM SMITH



Lynda Falkenstein (b. 1942); and Pam Smith (b. 1947); Conversation with Joel Levin – Wednesday, August 3, 2011.

J: You both live in Portland. Have either of you ever been to Erie?

L: No, I have not.

P: Nor have I.



Muni and Sylvia Carl

J: Let's just go through the family. Your father's name was Muni.

L: Yes. It started out as Hyman Muni Carl. He despised his first name and I guess Bertha [Blau] said something about this when you were speaking to her.

J: Yes. Did you ever know his parents?

P: They died before we were born. They died before you too, didn't they Lynda? I think they were all gone before they left New York.

L: I remember when I was about five and that "Daddy was going on a big plane to Erie." That's when his father died. His father was not somebody, as Pam said earlier, who was very pleasant. Nobody liked him and he was very rough on the kids.

P: My memory is a little different from what my mom told me. I was under the impression that he stayed with them until he died, but I don't know if that is 100% true. My dad told me that I know he did not like his Jewish name, and he took the name Muni from the actor Paul Muni. But I don't know if he was serious. I don't know why he would make it up.

J: Your grandfather seemed to have several ways that he spelled his first name and his last name. Do you have information on the right way?

P: I looked in the census for 1920. Sometimes it is spelled Carol, sometimes Carrol. Minnie was living with him and I am not certain who wrote that.



Ukrainian Pogrom

J: How many children did your grandparents have? And I will get back to Menya. There was Minnie, Lena, Muni and there was Beryl. [Morris Carlstein is also, apparently, an older brother].

L: There was supposedly one other that I know of. My dad had said he had a sister that was killed in Russia.

J: Does anybody know her name? [Likely Hana].



Emblem of the White Russians.

P: She was always the sister. The sister who died.

J: Was she raped and killed at the same time Lena was?

P: I don't know that. My father had said that she was raped and killed by a White Russian.

J: Jack [Thompson] said that there were White Russians participating in a pogrom that led nearly to the death of his family.

P: My dad was only nine when he came to this country. I don't know where he got his information or his memories.

J: Do you know where he lived in Russia?

P: He used to say Kiev, or in the vicinity.

L: The area that they lived in was Makarov and the Dasilkov was the smaller area within Makarov [See Makarov and Babi Yar, A3-6] was the town.

J: My grandparents, and maybe others were living in Fastov [A70-71] when they left. Did you ever hear of that town?

L: Oh yes. Fastov is close to the Dasilkov.

J: Right. My grandparents were listed as living in Fastov in 1922 on their passports. Fastov may have been closed to Jews before the Russian Revolution, but my grandfather may have moved there after the war. He might have taken other relatives there. When I looked (on the Russian site, not an English site), there is a Radov still left in Fastov.

L: I want to make this a correction on what I said before. Makarov was the specific area they were living in and Dasilkov is 29 miles from Makarov.



Minnie, Lena, Muni and Bill Carol

J: Did you hear any Russian stories from any of the relatives other than the pogrom involving Lena and her sister?

P: I have not.

L: Nor did I.

J: Did you hear the story about Peter my mother knew?

P: What's the story?



From far back: Pat and Pam Smith along with Jenny, Mary Jane, Ava and Joel Levin at Ecola State Park, OR. – 2012.

J: That he had a sword run through his hand by a Cossack during the pogrom.

L: You told me. We never heard any of that at home. I think the closest to “the old country” we got was father writing Yiddish letters. I can see it like it was yesterday, from right to left. I always asked him as a little girl “What are you doing? This is funny looking writing.” He was writing to the family in Erie. They exchanged lots with the Erie group, and he wrote to Lena and Cherna. They knew very little English.

J: I remember their English. Do you have any of those letters?

L: No. I wish. I don’t have any of that.



1900 Kiev

J: My grandmother Luba corresponded apparently with her family in the 1920s and 1930s back to Kiev. We don’t know where those letters back are. She sent letters to Kiev in Russian, not in Yiddish. [Her family never emigrated. After the war, Morris retained investigators to locate Luba’s family, without success. They apparently did not survive the Shoah].

L: Wow.

J: My grandmother didn’t know Yiddish until she got married.

L: No. This was definitely Yiddish and the closest Russian from the old country that we had was some of the food, particularly *borscht*. Would you say that, Pam?

P: Yes, but I don’t know if that was her dad or our mother, who was born in Brooklyn. She was the cook. She made all that.

L: The beef *borscht* came with dad. That was uniquely Russian.

J: Were you friendly with Minnie and Morry?

P: Morry [1895-1976] came out to our house in Oregon. I don’t even know if I had children yet. He came and visited, but that was after Minnie had passed away. [1899-1970]. I had only seen him a few times when I traveled to Chicago. When he came and visited and stayed with us for a while, that’s how I knew him.

J: This is when he was older and had lost his voice.



Lynda and Mike Falkenstein

P: Yes. He had already lost his voice. I had met him at a wedding. Maybe it was one of Bertha's kids.

L: I got to see them several times actually when I was a kid, I stayed with them. I visited their shoe store. Then, when I worked for the American Bar Association in Chicago I would see them, up to the point when they did not have the store.

J: Were they photographers at the time?

L: Teddy has a photography business initially and then Jordan joined him. Ultimately Jordan decided to go on his own and that caused a lasting rift in the family. What Jordan did was he decided, instead of baby pictures, which Teddy did, he was going to do special events, particularly special events for the Orthodox Jewish community and particularly weddings and Bar Mitzvahs. When I talked to Jordan about this, and this was about five weeks ago, he went through the chronology and I said to him "Oh my god, what an incredible business." If you think about it, there were many more wedding pictures and many more Bar Mitzvahs photos you could sell compared to baby photographs. In any case, Jordan became quite successful.



Ted and Shelle Sakol - 1950

J: Do you hear from Shelly?

P: She splits her time between Chicago and Florida. She is remarried. She is just very sweet and outgoing.

J: I used to live in Chicago and went to the University of Chicago, so I would see them in Morton Grove regularly. Then when my parents came to Chicago, we would all get together. When I interviewed there, Ted [1927-1996] said there were too many communists at U.C. and told my mother, Clare, absolutely not to send her son there.

P: That's right. There were very particularly conservative, politically different from us. Lena also. They had very different political views, at least from our parents.

J: Or my parents. It turns out that Ted was not current on the U.C. By the time I got there, Milton Freidman (one of my teachers) was the hero. It was the U.C. of Leo Strauss, Friederich Hayek, Milton Friedman and Richard Coase, hardly very communist. I'm not sure I ever met a communist there. [Actually, likely one, a junior faculty member I was friendly with who, later, as Dean of Columbia, notoriously invited President Ahmadinejad to speak there]. Ted passed away, right?



Lynda Falkenstein

P: I would say 15 years ago. Maybe 20. Shelly has been remarried for a while.

J: They had four kids. Barre, Jerry, Cary and Teri, names hard to forget. Do you know what happened to any of them?

P: I think she is very close to all of them. She sent me pictures of the wedding – fantastic – Barre's wedding.

L: By the way, Jordan has a special lady friend. I believe she's his age. She was Faith's best friend and, I think, Faith kind of handed her off to Jordan.



Jordan and Faith Sakol

J: But Faith is deceased, right?

P: Faith [1934-2010] died, yes.

J: What did your father do for a living?

P: He was in the insurance business.

J: When did he move to Portland?

L: In 1943.

J: Where were you born?

L: I was born in Brooklyn.

J: What did he do in Brooklyn?

P: He was a printer.

L: I don't know if he worked for a printer or for a printing company. That goes under the "I think" category.

J: What about your grandmother, Menya? What do you remember about her?

P: The only thing I remember is my father was very close to his mother.



Menya Radov Carol

J: What did you hear about her?

P: I have always been very curious about that, about the family. I wanted to know. My dad never would give information. I never asked what was his mother was like. My mother told me that dad was very close to his mother. He remarried after she died to a lady my mother said that he loved. They thought she was a lovely person.

J: You mean your grandfather remarried.

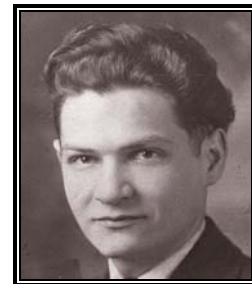
P: Yes. To Bobise. [To fill in the peripatetic Raful: his parents were Tevya and Mariam and his second wife was Margaret Smilowitz, nee Springer, probably of Shaker Hts., step-mother to Minnie, Lena, Bill and Muni. She married him in Erie on May 20, 1935.]

J: What did your grandfather do for a living?

P: I know when he was younger, my dad used to say he was a fruit peddler. On the census, it shows that he had a fruit company. It shows as a business.

J: When he came over in 1922, where did he go?

P: I thought they went directly to Erie. I don't know how long he was in Erie. My dad lived there until he graduated from high school. I don't know if that was when he left and went to New York. He did go to a community college. Maybe he attended that in New York or Erie. I don't know.



Muni Carl

J: When was your father born?



Academy High School in Erie.



Bertha Blau - 1959

P: 1913.

J: So he would have graduated high school in 1931.

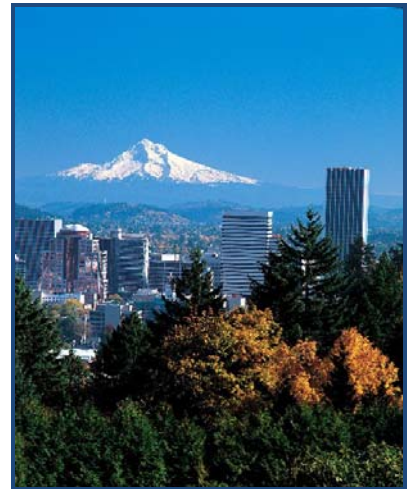
P: About or around there.

J: Did he go to Academy?

P: Yes, he did.

J: That is where everybody went. All the Radovs went to Academy. Eventually Bertha became assistant principal. Were you friendly with any of the California Radovs, Lena's and Cherna's families?

P: Lena's family. Yes. Sheila and her husband Mike. I didn't know Sheila's children too well. I knew her daughter who passed away. Of course, Bill came to Portland throughout his life and spent time with us. Our mother couldn't stand Bill and was always at him and calling him a racist. Which he was. Bill had the most incredible memory for jokes. From the time he would walk in the door he would be telling jokes. He could remember everything that you did. He could pop-up with a story. He was incredible that way. We had him quite often up here. He was difficult too. He was not always entirely honest. I don't think he was a pathological liar, but I do think he liked to say things to get a reaction.



Portland, Oregon

L: That was one thing that was interesting about him, despite the fact that he was a poster child for so many things that were unpleasant to us.

J: Like what?



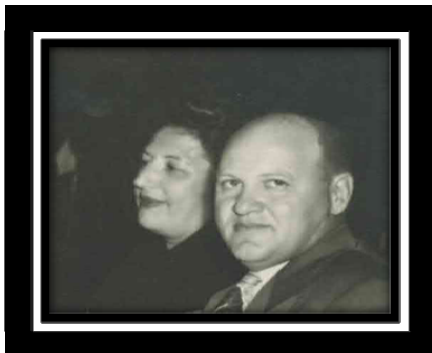
Sylvia, Pam and Lynda Carl

L: He was never without a girlfriend. But really pretty, grown-up, solid women. Remember Pam.

P: He brought really nice ladies up here. He would tell them that he owned all this and he had a big business, he had 60 people working for him in the plumbing business and he owned this apartment building and he owned that. He did not have a dime. He never really worked, except as a house painter every now and then. But he was very entertaining.

L: If you could have seen our mother with Uncle Bill.

P: My dad would find work for him when he came to town. My dad would not be around and he would leave my poor mother to haul Bill all over and I think she did pretty well. She fed him, and she let him have it once in a while, but for the most part, I think she just held her tongue. I don't think that he was that fond of my mom either for that reason.



Beatrice and Bill Carol - 1950

J: Did he have kids?

P: He did. I want to say three. I never met them and they didn't have anything to do with him. I believe that they live in Chicago somewhere. I'm not positive. The last years of his life he went back there to meet them. All I know is that it didn't go well. He never had a relationship with them.

J: What last name did he go by?

P: Carol.

J: Do Madelyn and Stanley ring a bell with you?

P: Now that you mention it. Bill never really talked it. I think his wife got a TV one time and he threw it out the window because he said she would not have a TV. That's all I remember him telling me about her.

J: What about Lena? How well did you know Lena?

P: We traveled to L.A. often and she came up here also. We came up for Sheila's wedding. She came up to visit throughout the years. I wouldn't say very regularly. We would all pile in the car and go to L.A. every few years.

J: She had a problematic relationship with her husband Harry. Is that what you remember?



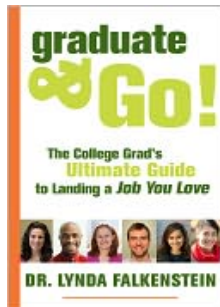
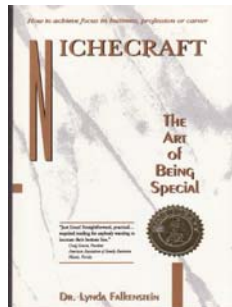
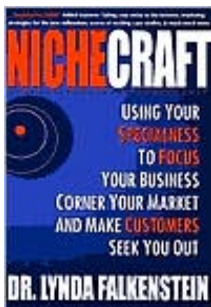
Mona Sheila Bergida

L: We always felt that he was the paycheck. It was an arranged marriage.

J: According to my mother, it wasn't a traditionally arranged marriage. My mother said that Lena needed a husband and so Cherna and Lena simply went to Ellis Island and found someone who was Jewish, didn't speak English and, to stay in the country, was willing to marry Lena. She just picked him out of a crowd.



Harry and Lena Smith – 1930



Works by Lynda Falkenstein, the Niche Doctor
(Ph.D. from Stanford, but not in niche).

L: I would call that a kind of an arranged marriage.

J: I'm not arguing. My mother said that was what happened. Bertha doesn't entirely agree, but I think on that one, it is probably close to right. It wasn't as though they knew each other.

L: I don't think he was really close to the kids either. I never observed any affection or anything like that.

J: Were you friendly with the kids? Sheila died a few years ago. She had lung cancer at the end.

P: I've kept in touch with her. We talked and emailed. When I went to California, I would see Sheila. That is when her daughter was alive and the three of us would get together. We just kept in touch. I still keep in touch with her husband, Mike. We check in every few months.

J: Her daughter [Lindy] died suddenly.

L: She was 16.

J: There is a theory that she was taking some diet pills on her own. Is that what you heard?

L: I never heard that.

P: It was suspicious. It was something else and they didn't want to say.

J: Pam, tell me about your kids: names, ages and what they are doing.

P: Andy is Andrew and you can call him Andy. He is 30 and looking for full-time work. He graduated last year, and is freelancing for a couple of people in law. My daughter, Molly, will be 29 in a few days and she works for Bank America. [She is also the housemate of her cousin, Jenny Levin, in Portland].



Molly, Patrick, Andrew and Pam
Carl Smith - 2009

* * * * *

Michael Falkenstein. Conversation with Joel Levin – Tuesday, August 14, 2012

JL: When were you born?

MF: September 2, 1938.

JL: You are married to Lynda?



Molly and Brian Buck on the roof at their
flash wedding in Portland – 2012.

MF: Since 1964.

JL: That makes you brother-in-law to Pam and Pat,
and the uncle of Molly and Andy.

MF: Yes.

JL: Also, in the last couple of weeks, Molly got
married in a flash wedding.

MF: Yes, to Brian Buck.

JL: Where were you born?

MF: Frankfort, Germany.

JL: What was the name of the actual town outside of Frankfort where you lived?

MF: Richelsdorf.

JL: How far from Frankfort was Richelsdorf?

MF: Not very far, perhaps 30 or 40 miles.

JL: What did your parents do in Germany?

MF: My dad had a textile company. They both imported and made textiles, and they produced handmade rugs. They also had a suit or clothing division there.

JL: Do you know how many employees he had?

MF: He ran it with my uncle. I don't know how many employees.

JL: Who lived with you?

MF: My parents and two sisters. I don't think that my grandparents lived with us.



The Old Jewish Mill in Richelsdorf, perhaps the Falkenstein's.



Mike Falkenstein's family in Germany.

JL: When did you leave?

MF: 1940.

JL: What finally made your parents leave Germany?

MF: They were both attacked and severely beaten, both my father and my mother.

JL: Who beat them?

MF: The Nazis.

JL: Where?.

MF: In their home. My dad ended up with 11 operations on his knee.

JL: What did they do to his knee?

MF: They clubbed him, clubbed him and clubbed him.

JL: What did they do to your mother? Did they rape your mother?

MF: I believe so. My parents had a difficult time talking about that.

JL: At that point, WWII had already started. How did they manage to take the Trans-Siberian Railway?

MF: My dad had a lot of gold and paid people off along the way. That allowed us to get away. We were originally going to go to South America, but only made it to Shanghai.

JL: You were locked in a crate the whole time, is that right?



Trans-Siberian Bridge over Kama River
near Perm in 1912.

MF: I was put in a box with a pillow, wine and sugar in my mouth. It was sealed up and covered with other material. I had lost my pacifier and they were terrified. They were checking young boys and not letting them leave Germany. A neighbor helped him figure out a way to hide me and that's what they did. It was an eight day train ride. I was drugged with alcohol and sugar to keep my quiet.

JL: How long did you remain in Shanghai?

JL: Your family didn't have any visas. Shanghai was the one place Jews could enter without a visa.

MF: Yes. They could get in there.

JL: Your family lived in an extremely nice home and were well off in Germany.

MF: Very.

JL: Did you say they had their own chauffeur?

MF: My mother had a chauffeur and a valet. Then we got to Shanghai and all we had was a cup of water.

JL: When you got to Shanghai you had nothing?

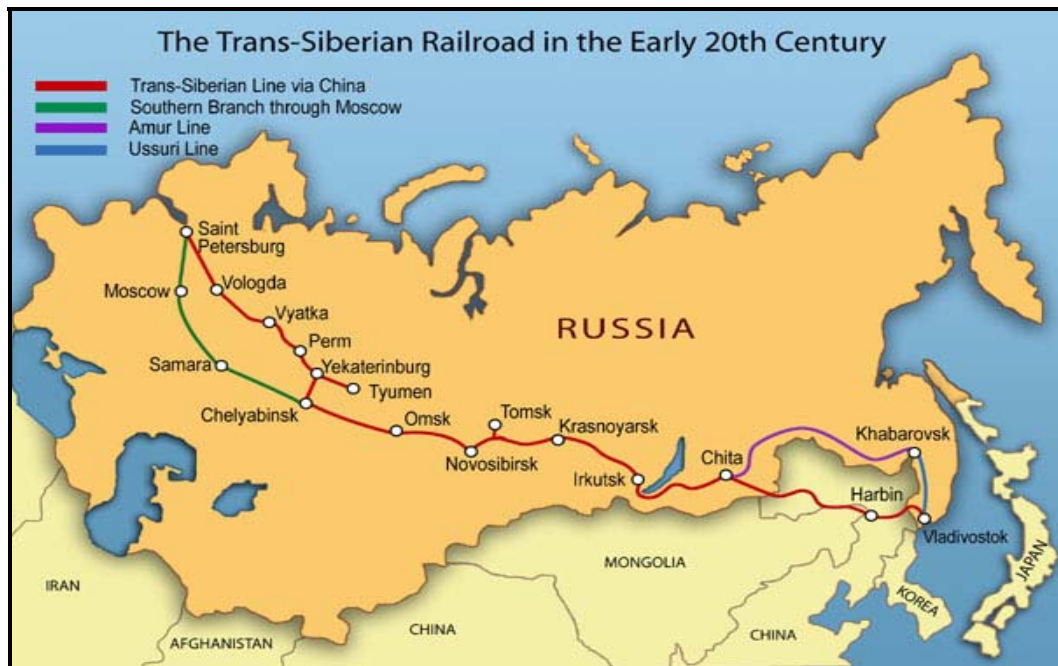


Mike Falkenstein's mother with
her chauffeur in Germany.

MF: Zip. Zero.

JL: Tell me about how you got from Frankfort to Shanghai.

MF: Apparently they took the Trans-Siberian Railway down to Manchuria, then called Manchuko, and finally a small junk to Shanghai. They paid people off to get passage the entire way, from Europe to Shanghai.



Mike Falkenstein

JL: How did they get on the Trans-Siberian?

MF: The train to Moscow. I was hidden in a crate then, and all the way to China.

JL: This was 1940.

MF: Right. January 1940.

JL: WWII began in 1939. There had already been a war between the Japanese and China.

MF: Yes. When we reached Shanghai, a successful businessman had created a community for the displaced Jews in Hongkew. We were picked up at the harbor

and taken to our living facility. An aunt and uncle who did not have any children went with us.

JL: When you say Hongkew, was that a section of Shanghai?

MF: Yes. Hongkew is still there.

JL: Was it a foreigner's ghetto or just a Jewish ghetto?

MF: Not only Jews. The Chinese were mixed in there. To my knowledge there were 17,000 Jews displaced in that whole ghetto area.



Shanghai Ghetto – 1943.

JL: How long did you remain in Shanghai?

MF: For seven years, until the end of 1947.

JL: Until 1945 it was occupied by the Japanese.

MF: Yes, and they were pretty ruthless.

JL: What was that like for your family?



Japanese Soldiers in Shanghai – 1937.

MF: The Japanese made life as difficult as possible. My father was a very sociable guy who went to work selling meat to various places. The Japanese would periodically stop him in the street and nail him for no reason or say he didn't have the right passage or certification with him. One guy, Col. Goya, was the leader of the Japanese contingent there. He was about five feet tall and just meaner than he could be. He would come in, you would never know when, and he would demand to check your apartment. He frequently beat people up. He disappeared at the end of the war. I think the refugees helped him disappear.

JL: Was Goya in charge of that part of Shanghai or all of Shanghai?

MF: All of it.

JL: Did he beat your father?

MF: Yes. At many different times. He was very physically abusive.

JL: Did you ever learn Chinese?

MF: Yes, but generally I spoke German, including in school.

JL: Where did you go to school?

MF: A successful businessman named Kadoorie built a school the refugees. He was our benefactor.

JL: He was a Persian Jew, wasn't he?



Israeli Stamps honoring the Kadoorie Schools.

MF: I believe he was Sephardic. [Lawrence Kadoorie was actually a Mizrahi Jew, one whose family never left for Spain (and became Sephardic) or central and eastern Europe (and became Ashkenazi), but remained in the Middle East. The family eventually moved from Baghdad to Bombay to Shanghai and later to Hong Kong. He was famous for his philanthropy].

JL: He built a school and you went there.

MF: He financially helped build this thing.

JL: The other wealthy family was the Sassoon family. What do remember of them?

MF: Just that they were also very giving. They tried to help the community survive.

JL: What was day-to-day life like for you?

MF: Pretty traumatic. Bombing periodically either by the Japanese or the Americans later on. After every bombing, I would collect shrapnel. I had a hell of a great collection.

JL: Did you bring it to the United States?



Hongkew – 1946.

JL: Was Hongkew bombed?

MF: Yes. The roof garden of our building was partially in pieces at the end of the war from the bombing.



Jewish Synagogue in Shanghai.

MF: No. I wanted to. I had a little cart that my dad helped build. When I got to the ship the captain said “No.” I remember looking down from the bow of the ship at my cart of shrapnel.

JL: Is that because, even though the Japanese occupied the city, they were bombing it to prevent Chinese troops from entering?

MF: Right.

JL: Did you go to synagogue?

MF: Oh yes. We had a synagogue. We went to synagogue on Friday nights when we could.

JL: Did you learn Hebrew?

MF: Yes. We attempted to live as normal a life as we could.

JL: When you say your father sold meat, who did he sell to?

MF: To businesses. He bought it wholesale and sold it to businesses and sometimes to families. He went house to house and business to business carrying this stuff.

JL: He lived a life of manual labor.

MF: Yes. He did everything he could to perpetuate the finances.

JL: My understanding was that the international community of Shanghai was the only place for a period of time in the entire world that German Jews could go without a visa.

MF: Yes. I think that it was the most open place. That’s why we ended up there. Some people got into South America. Whether that was based on having a lot of money or

whether it was based on having the right certificates and visas, I don't know. We tried to do that, but it didn't work.

JL: Do you have any personal memory of life in Germany?

MF: No.

JL: Many children of that community became well-known: Michael Blumenthal, Lawrence Tribe, Peter Max, John Stoessinger. Did you know any of those people?

MF: My dad did. I didn't, I was too young. I knew who they were. He knew Michael Blumenthal.

JL: He became Secretary of Treasury under Carter. Tribe was a famous law professor and Peter Max was a celebrated artist. Do you still see any of those people from those days?



Plaque on left marks Shanghai Ghetto home of Michael Blumenthal's family and others.



U.S. Naval Ship the *Marine Lynx*.

MF: No. They really disbursed around the world.

JL: How did you eventually get out? The Chinese returned to power in 1945, right?

MF: Yes. We got out on the American troop ship called the *Marine Lynx*.

JL: How did you get a visa to come to the United States?

MF: My aunt who lived here pulled a lot of strings. She went from Germany straight to America in 1940 or earlier. Her husband had gone bankrupt in Germany, but here they became well off. They were the ones responsible for us getting out.

JL: How was life different under the Chinese government than under the Japanese?

MF: There was less abuse. It was still a haphazard existence. Chiang Kai-shek was the leader and he didn't really give too much of a rip, to my knowledge, about taking care of his people. But for me, he didn't do any damage to the refugees. The

Japanese came in, of course, and they were in and out. You never knew what days they were around. I don't know to this day whether there was actual fighting going to remove, to remove the Japanese, either by the Americans or others. One day, they just disappeared.

JL: Then came the Chinese Communists?

MF: Yes. We didn't have much to do with that. They were in the north when this first started. They then came in.

JL: Did they bother you?

MF: No.

JL: You later came to Portland?

MF: We came to San Francisco first, then to Portland.

JL: You later married Lynda.

MF: Much later, yes.

JL: Eventually, you graduated law school at Lewis & Clark [where Susan Mandiberg is now a Professor].

MF: Yes.

JL: Just in terms of your father-in-law, Muni also left Russia under certain adverse circumstances, after the pogroms and the Revolution. Did you ever talk to him about your joint experiences growing up elsewhere and then as children coming to America?

MF: He didn't talk much about things. He was a pretty quiet guy.

JL: But you and Muni shared a very similar experience.

MF: Yes.

JL: You never discussed this experience with him.

MF: Not much. I don't know if he did with his family.

JL: Do you have any other memories of Shanghai?



U.S. Stamp celebrating art of Hongkew survivor, Peter Max.

MF: The irony is that there were some really good times in the midst of all this trauma. Friday nights we may have not had candelabras, but we had a piece of wood where we made little holes for candles. We would make a Sabbath meal and it was a big deal. It was an enjoyment and we were together, my two sisters, myself, my mom, dad, aunt and uncle. We lived in the ghetto in kind of an apartment where my aunt had the outside room. So from our room, we had to go through theirs to go outside. They didn't have children so we had a good relationship, but not having children and having these little guys going in and out (me for instance) created some stresses at times. If you read *Anne Frank Remembered*, you will note that the old human elements came into play and they periodically didn't get along with each other in the midst of all this other stuff. You don't think about those things because you're so focused on the trauma and the war. While you're trying to survive this, you also have some interactions that are good and some that are not.



Jewish Ghetto near Shaoxing Road.

JL: Do you remember your address in Shanghai?

MF: I don't remember the number, but it was on Shaoxing Road.

JL: What else do you remember about that time?

MF: Nothing except that my parents were amazing people, very resourceful and strong.

JL: Many of the Jews who were there had trouble finding food. Was that true for your family?

MF: Yes, I think so. We ate because my dad was resourceful. But it was a project. Those were not times when as today we would focus on the mental or emotional repercussions. A lot of the older people in later years, after they got out, started having some pretty significant breakdowns. My folks didn't, but some of their friends did.

JL: You think they held it together and then crashed when they got here?

MF: Yes. I remember getting a call from a friend of my dad. He made no sense and he is someone I had spoken to million times. He was never able to put that back together again.

JL: Anything else?

MF: I can't think of much else. We all worshiped America. I would periodically get a Hersey bar from my aunt's packages and savored it for days.

JL: Were you ever personally afraid or just afraid for your parents?



Remnant of Jewish community at
26 Shaoxing Road.

MF: I was personally afraid, too. The potential of not getting out of there and the potential of getting hurt.

JL: Were you personally mistreated by the Japanese or the local Chinese?

MF: Just verbally.

JL: What do you mean verbally?

MF: Just Col. [Kanoh] Goya. He was the guy who scared the hell out of me.

JL: Did you actually run into him?

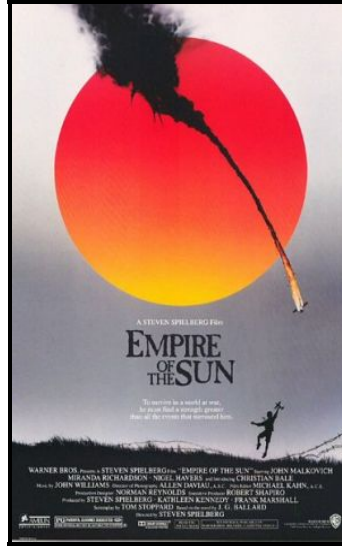
MF: Yes. He would speak in Japanese and in English, but he was just abusive. He would tell you to sit down and then he would make you stand up. He was an irrational guy. We did everything he said. He always had guards with him.

JL: He would come through the Jewish community and make trouble?

MF: Yes. The King of Jews, he called himself.

JL: It's a pretty unbelievable story.

MF: There are moments when it hits me pretty hard. I saw a movie years ago called *Empire of the Sun*. As I left the theater, I just broke apart and just started crying like hell because I had realized that, for a great part of my youth there, I was always terrified of losing my folks, partly because of the Japanese and partly because of the environment. When I saw *Empire of the Sun*, it reminded me exactly of what happened there. I think it hit me so hard because it was the story of a boy.



Poster for *Empire of the Sun*.

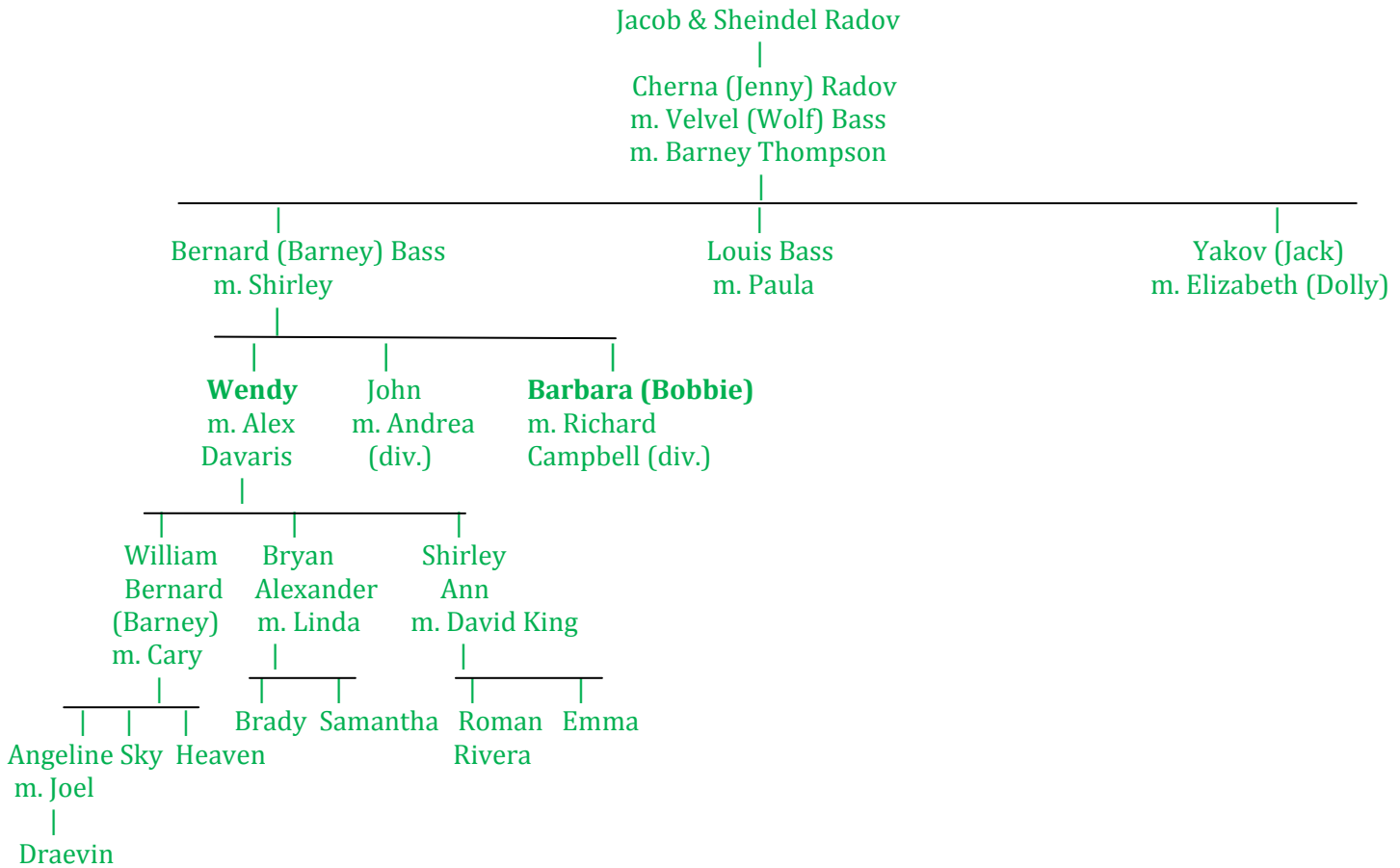


Mike Falkenstein after leaving Germany and coming to the U.S.



From left to right: Lynda and Mike Falkenstein, Molly and Brian Buck, Andy Smith, Mary Jane, Ava and Jenny Levin. Portland, OR – 2012.

WENDY DAVARIS AND BARBARA BASS



Wendy Davaris and Barbara Bass. Conversation with Joel Levin – Tuesday, November 8, 2011.

J: Wendy and Bobbie, you're sisters. How old are each of you?

W: I'm 65.

B: I'm 58.

J: Your parents were Barney and Shirley Bass. When was Barney born?

W: December 25, 1919.

B: That's what our grandmother [Cherna] said, because there was never a birth certificate.



Bobbie and John Bass and Wendy Davaris

J: So when your father came to America in 1922, he was 2 years old. When did he pass away?

W: On June 13, 2003, Father's Day weekend.

J: What about Shirley, your mother?

W: She was born on April 13, 1924 and passed away four years ago, December 1, 2007.

J: What was your father's name originally?

W: I believe it was Bastrisky, but they changed it at Ellis Island.

J: The immigration roles, when they arrived here, show Brodsky. The ship manifest itself has them listed as Mazzbic. But both of those were written by others, listening through no English and a thick accent. What was your father's given name?

W: Bernard.

J: Where was he born?

W: Berdychiv, in the Ukraine [then part of Russia].

J: That's a famous Jewish market town, a Russian trading city in the northern Ukraine. It was a jewelry center, and your grandfather was a jeweler. [Berdychiv was an almost magical Hasidic town, populated by great (but not Russian language) writers, Pres. Kennedy's relatives and Jewish graves in the shape of ankles and feet. See Berdychiv, A117-120].



Berdychiv, Russia

W: Yes.

J: Did you know where Cherna, your grandmother, was born?

W: No. All I knew is that she was born in Russia.

J: What did you call your grandmother? When I grew up, I always heard her called Tanta Cherna.

W: Jenny. People called her Cherna, but we always said Jenny.

B: Nanny Jenny is what I called her.



Cherna and Wolf Bass

- J: Wolf was considerably older than Cherna.
- W: There may have been a 20 year difference or more. He was in his 50s when he died and that was in 1939 and she had a little boy. She had Jack.
- J: I understood she was born in 1896.
- W: It sounds about right.
- J: Was it an arranged married?
- B: Yes it was.

- J: Do you know how it came about or the terms?
- B: No. Dad never told me anything other than it was an arranged marriage, because he was a jeweler and well-to-do. Of course, that was before the Revolution. She was 16.
- J: She was born in 1896. If she were 16, it would have been 1912.
- B: Yes.
- J: What did you learn about Wolf?
- W: That he was a jeweler and they had a store when they came to the New York. I don't think he was a jeweler in New York. They had a small, Jewish mom-and-pop, grocery store type thing.
- B: Dad said that Wolf was a jeweler in Berdychiv and that it was a trade that was passed down. He also told me of Wolf being imprisoned. I remember dad saying that Wolf was captured. He was in the Russian army. He was captured by the Cossacks, the White Russians, and put in a prison camp. He was forced to eat pork, which really appalled Wolf. Then, all of a sudden came the Red Russians and fought with the White Russians and they released all the prisoners, including him. So he was able to run away. They didn't know he was Jewish. They just thought he was a soldier.



Berdychiv Market, Russia

- J: The Red Army, if ruthless and violent, wasn't particularly anti-Semitic, at least not then. The head of the army was Leon Trotsky who, whatever else, was born a Jew. [See War, Escape, Trotsky & Joseph Radov's U.S. 1921 Passport, A112-116].

TO BE GIVEN TO THE PERSON NATURALIZED

NO. 3485248

Petition No. 175925

Personal description of holder as of date of naturalization: Age 47 years, sex male, color white, complexion fair, color of eyes brown, color of hair brown, height 5 feet 8 inches, weight 175 pounds, visible distinctive marks none, race Hebrew, former nationality Russia, Marital status Married.

I certify that the description above given is true, and that the photograph affixed hereto is a likeness of me.

ORIGINAL

(Complete and true signature of holder)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

Be it known, that Wolf Bass, then residing at 705 E. 9th St., NYC, having petitioned to be admitted a citizen of the United States of America, and at a term of the District Court of The United States, New York City, held pursuant to law, at Dec. 7th, 1931, the court having found that the petitioner intends to reside permanently in the United States, had in all respects complied with the Naturalization Laws of the United States in such case applicable and was entitled to be so admitted, the court thereupon ordered that the petitioner be admitted as a citizen of the United States of America.

In testimony whereof the seal of the court is hereunto affixed this 7th day of Dec. in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and 31 and 56th.

Charles Weiser
Clerk of the U. S. District Court.

By [Signature] Deputy Clerk.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Wolf Bass' Citizenship Certificate

- B: Anyway, he was captured and released.
- J: Where did they live in New York?
- W: The Bronx. The only way we found out for sure is because of the Census records. That's how my dad got his passport. There is no birth certificate. My grandmother was already gone and so was Lena. My father needed a passport, and they used the Census that was taken in the Bronx.
- J: What do you remember about Cherna or Jenny?

W: She was always wonderful to me. I used to go to her house. She would take me by myself and that was kind of nice, and we had quality time together. It was a very good relationship. I would also go to Lena's house and I was with the two of them and we were very close, me and my aunt and Jenny. [Lena, Wendy's and others' much older first cousin was, more or less universally, considered an aunt].



Clock Tower of Farmers Market at 3rd and Fairfax in L.A.

J: They lived by the Farmers Market?

W: They lived in Fairfax [part of L. A.] near the Farmers Market. My mother would always say "Don't feed her too much" and "Make sure she doesn't eat too much." Then we used to go to the Farmers Market and my grandmother would say, "What do you want to eat? They have a little of everything." [Laughing]. It was fun.

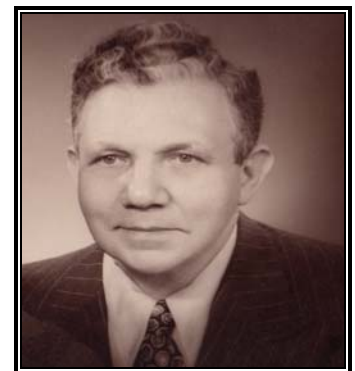
J: What about your step-grandfather, Barney Thompson?

W: He was a baker. He would go to work at night and come home in the morning. When I stayed over, he would come home in the morning with his pumpernickel bread. He would add extra raisins to it and put fresh butter in it. It was wonderful. He was a very nice man and a very quiet man.

B: My memories are the same. I remember as a little girl loving to go over to her house. She always used to take us to the Farmers Market. Barney Thompson worked in the bakery and he always brought home hot bread and stuff [laughing]. We ate until we were sick.

J: Where was Barney [Thompson] from?

B: He was an English Jew, strictly kosher in practice. I remember Barney putting me on his knee and doing little riddles with me. In his Liverpool, guttural English accent. Like *Knock on the door*. He would knock on my forehead, then he would tell me to open up my eyes, "Peek in, lift the latch." He would pull on my nose, walk in and then he would shake my hand and say, "How do you do this morning?" I have fond memories of him.



Barney Thompson

J: From all you have described about him before, he was likely Sephardic. You spent some time with Lena and Harry [Smith]?

W: Yes.

J: Lena was considered something of a sister to Cherna.

W: Oh yes. They were very close.

B: I remember going to see Lena. I would follow her into the kitchen and she used to make pickles, big jars of pickles. We would either go over to Nanny's or to her house for holiday dinners. I was always fascinated with her kitchen because she was *glatt* kosher and we weren't kosher at home. She had this huge kitchen.

J: Strictly *glatt* kosher?

B: Yes. Really strict. Like everything had been bought for the rabbi and all of that kind of stuff. She had two refrigerators. One was meat and one was milk and everything was separate. She had this massive kitchen where everything was double. There were four sets of dishes, four sets of pots and pans.



Glatt (or smooth, referring to how the animal lining was found) Kosher is synonymous with extra or very strict Kosher.

J: What was Harry like?

W: Harry was fun, but he was very stubborn. He did what he wanted to do. Whether Lena wanted him to do it or not, he would do what he wanted. He was a painter and he tried to make a living. But I think Lena did most of it because Lena ran a half-way house, where they let the people go out on their own. She would take only women and she took care of them. My grandmother did the same thing. Later, when she was very ill, most of them that came there would not leave Lena. After she passed away, we lost track. We would always have *Sedar* dinners at Lena's and the ladies were there. We always made them feel like part of the family. They would tell us that they were part of the family.

J: Did Harry do work at your house?

W: Yes. He painted our house. He did what he wanted to do. My mother wanted soft colors and he painted one of the rooms maroon. [Laughing]. Harry did what he wanted.

B: I remember that. Harry painted the living room purple and mom came in and said, "Harry, what did you do?" [Laughing].

J: What happened when Harry went to get a driver's license?

W: He convinced my dad to go with him to get a driver's license. He thought that Harry could read and write, but evidently he couldn't. So he took him down to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles and he went to take the test. There were a lot of people and they were all going to take the test, so Harry would ask them, "Is this the correct answer? Is that the correct answer?" and they would say "No." He had the whole section up in the air, because they were all saying "No, this is the correct answer. No, that's the correct answer." So the BMV threw him out along with all the rest of the people. They all got thrown out. My dad went home and he told Lena "I took him to the BMV and he got thrown out." She said, "Why did you do that? He can't read or write."

J: Did your father move to L. A. after he left the army?

W: Yes. That's where he wanted to settle. My mom asked him where he wanted to be after the war. He wanted to come to California and that's where he went.

B: Mom moved from New York first and set up while Dad was overseas. She moved from New York to an apartment in downtown L.A. Her mother and father were still in New York. She started working as a bookkeeper or secretary. During the war, she was Rosie the Riveter. She put together P-38s. I think that's what caused the lung cancer with the mesothelioma that killed her. She worked putting together the planes, and before that, did work in Washington D.C. at the Pentagon. Then she moved out West and, eventually, they bought a house in Van Nuys. When dad came home from service, the house was already set up.



In order to attract women to factory work during the manpower shortage of W.W.II, the icon of Rosie the Riveter was promoted.



The Lockheed P-38 Lightning

J: When you say the P-38, you mean the aircraft? [Specifically, the Lockheed P-38 Lightning was a W.W.II mainstay fighter aircraft, particularly in the Pacific. It was famous for being quiet, easy to fly, forgiving of pilot error, and the only fighter in production throughout the war, from Pearl Harbor to victory over Japan, VJ Day].

B: Right. The planes.

J: What did your father do in the war?



Shirley and Barney Bass

W: He was a radio operator in the Army. He was in the Philippines.

B: New Guinea and the Philippines. We have his picture in uniform.

J: Everybody in their uniforms looked thinner then than they did later.

W: Yes. They all looked thinner in their uniforms.

J: What did your father do for a living?

W: He was an accountant.

J: Where are your grandparents buried?

W: Wolf's in New York. Jenny is buried in a cemetery in East L. A. Mom and Dad are buried in Mount Sinai, in the Hollywood Hills.

J: Did your father tell you what it was like growing up in New York?

B: I have a picture of our father, probably 8 or 9 years old, maybe 10, and he's sitting on a Brownstone straddling the brickwork of the steps. I know he went to a P.S. school. He told me that they lived in an old tenement district and it was horrible. It had no windows, very small rooms, they all were together. It was difficult. Our grandparents opened up a produce store. Before that, he sold produce on the street.

J: He had a push cart?

B: Push cart peddler. Then he eventually opened up a little store. Nanny Jenny was a garment worker on a sewing machine, making men's ties and hats. She was sewing in a factory. [Lena worked there as well].

J: Those were pretty bad conditions. [They were generally sweatshops, a situation that led to the founding of the mainly Jewish I.L.G.W.U., the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union. That union grew after the 1911 Shirtwaist Fire, a disaster in a N.Y.C. clothing factory, not unlike Cherna's, employing young, Jewish females, where 146 died. It was New York's greatest catastrophe until 9/11].

B: Yes. That's what she was doing, sewing. The both of them were working very hard. They were very, very poor.

J: What did your father tell you other than his mother worked in a sweatshop and his father was a push cart peddler who eventually saved enough money to buy a small store?

B: Life was very, very hard. The police used to steal the fruit and vegetables and not pay for them or they would chase him down and tell him, "You're not supposed to be selling stuff on the street." So he didn't have fond memories of the police in New York. His father died at 58, which made him 18, and somebody had to help support the family. Nanny couldn't do it by herself. He finished high school, but he carried textiles on his back in the garment district to make money to be able to feed Nanny, Louis and Jack.

J: How long did that last?

B: He carried textiles for 5 years and then the war came about. After the war, he went to college and became an accountant on the G.I. Bill. He married mom in the middle of that, so he worked all through college supporting her and Wendy.

J: When did your parents get married?

W: 1943.

J: Then they must have married before he went overseas.

W: He actually married my mother on leave.

B: I can tell you the whole story if you want to hear it?

J: Sure.



A N.Y.C. tenement garment factory, similar to Cherna's, the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory, where 146 immigrants died.



Barney Bass

B: Our mom went out with him and then wrote him a Dear John letter. They met on a blind date. Barney Halperin and Penny introduced Shirley to my Dad. The first date was on *Yom Kipper* and they shouldn't have been eating, so they went to an Italian restaurant. They had a second date. After that, my mom blew him off and wrote him a Dear John letter. Then he went into the service. She was really, really sorry she did it as soon as she dropped the letter in the mailbox. My grandmother, Nana Edith, my mother's mother, wrote Dad and told him how miserable and sorry my mother was that she wrote that letter. So when he came back on leave, they got together again. He had to go back over but they wanted to get married. He was overseas. So one of the medics made it as though my mom was pregnant and Dad had to get back here to marry her.

J: So they pretended a shotgun marriage.

B: Even though she wasn't pregnant. That's the story.

J: Did your father or grandmother tell you stories of Russia?

W: He told me about having malnutrition. She didn't have very many stories. She didn't emphasize them.

J: When you say malnutrition, you mean as a child he didn't have enough to eat?

W: Yes, when they were running from the government. He would say that he had pneumonia and malnutrition and he still had the effects of it, because his tongue was deformed from the malnutrition. I know my grandmother was afraid of horses. In those days, when we were young, we watched cowboys and Indians on the television. We would always turn it off when she came.

J: Why was she afraid of horses?

W: There were men on horses who killed the family. I don't know if those killed were cousins or who they were, but they killed women on the horses with their swords.

J: The Cossacks or the White Army did that?

W: Yes. They killed them, they put the swords right through both of them. I think they were cousins. [See Humor, Cossacks & Pogroms, A63-66].

J: What did you hear of Lena in Russia?



Victims of a White Army Pogrom

- W: Lena, I know, was raped. Also, they took a board and slashed her face.
- B: I had heard that about Lena. I always asked "Why does Lena's nose look that way?" I was told that she was hit in the face with a board and then they raped her and that her brother and sister were stripped and thrown in the snow to die. I was told that they did die and that there was a husband and wife that took the names of the brother and sister. They were smuggled over with the family so that the spaces would be used. That was the story dad told me, that these two people took the names of the brother and sister, even though they were husband and wife, and they settled in New York. That's the story I was told for years.
- J: What about her sister being killed?
- W: I think she's the one who was killed when they were running away.
- J: Did you ever hear about the oldest son, Kayfman, who became a priest?
- W: I knew that there was one son who became a Russian Orthodox priest.
- J: Did you tell me of Wolf throwing jewelry on the ground?
- W: That's what my dad said. Wolf just threw jewelry into the gutter because everyone was afraid to be caught with any of it. Nobody picked it up.
- J: This is after the onset of the Russian Revolution, when being caught with jewelry raised suspicion?
- W: I don't know if it made him an aristocrat or other undesirable. Nobody picked it up. Nobody wanted to be caught with it.
- J: Did your family smoke?
- W: Yes. Everybody was a smoker. My dad, my mother. They were all smokers. I don't remember Jenny ever smoking. I don't believe Barney Thompson smoked, either.
- J: But your father and uncles did.
- W: Oh God yes. Did for years. He smoked almost three packs a day.
- B: I thought it was closer to five packs a day.
- J: Were you friendly with Bill Carol?



Shirley and Barney Bass

W: I grew up going to Lena's house and Bill was always there. He was at our grandmother's house too.

J: What was he like?

W: A big character. [Laughing]. He always had a different woman he was with. [Laughing]. I always asked, "Is he married to that one?" My mom said, "No." He was wonderful with Lena. He loved Lena dearly.

B: I used to like to go into Lena's house, but I was afraid sometimes. I was probably 5 years old and I was holding my mother's hand and I used to try to hide from Uncle Bill because, every time he got a hold of me, he would squeeze my cheeks. I wanted to run away from him. Then he had that cigar all the time. The other thing that scared me about going to Lena's is that she would have different people over. Her door was always open. She was a very, very good soul. If someone had no place to go for Passover or to break the fast, she would invite them in. I was scared at the beginning, because I would see these people with tattoos on their arms. I remember tugging at my mom's skirt saying, "What is that?" And she would say "Shh, I'll tell you later." That's how I learned about the Holocaust and, of course, Mike's [Bergida] family was in the Holocaust as well.



Prisoners at the Auschwitz Concentration Complex were tattooed with letters and then numbers, at first on their chest, later on their left arm. 'A' or 'B' meant a Jew.

J: So she would have Holocaust survivors over?

B: She would have all kinds of people but, yes, there were Holocaust survivors.

J: What about Sheila [Bergida] and Murray [Smith]?

W: I remember Sheila and Murray. I remember Sheila marrying her first husband. I don't remember his name. All I know is that Bill got her out of it. She wanted a divorce because he would beat her up.

B: I knew Barry and Marc [Bergida] when they were little. We were friendly with Sheila and Mike [Bergida], and would sometimes see them. Mike's sister would be with them. She was beaten so badly in a concentration camp that she was pretty much a vegetable in a wheelchair by that time.

J: Did you know the Erie family?

B: I knew Morris and Luba a little from their coming here.

W: I only went there once. Morris [P. Radov] came out a couple of times. I think he came out when Murray was dying. [It is Bobbie's informed view, as a nurse, that an improper blood transfusion rather than the auto accident itself killed Murray].

J: Yes. He and Mitzi [Radov Kerness] came together.



Elizabeth and Jack Bass Thompson - 1961

B: I remember when you [Wendy] visited Erie. You stayed with Luba, who you said had a house with beautiful furniture and who was trying to buy you things all the time you were there.

J: At some point, the family in L. A., your father, Jack, Louis, drifted apart.

W: That's what I remember. The family just pulled apart. Very sad, but that's just the way it was.

B: The cut with Louis was when I was a kid. I didn't even know what Louis looked like after awhile. I knew he had kind of reddish hair at one point. From looking at the pictures with my grandfather, I think he looked a little bit like him with the hair and all of that.



Barney, Bryan and Shirley Davaris

J: Wendy, you were married to Alex Davaris. He is now deceased?

W: Yes, he is.

J: You have three children, Bernard, Bryan and Shirley, right?

W: Right. Bernard is also Barney.

J: You broke Ashkenazi custom and named all three children after people still alive. [See Ashkenazi Jews, A123-128].

W: That's right.

J: That's a Sephardic tradition [backed by Talmudic authority, in *Mishnah, Shabbot* 134(a)].

W: I know. I just wanted to do it because I figured they are alive, so why not let them enjoy someone being named after them. It was very upsetting to my grandmother. But she got used to it.

J: It started before, with you Barbara.

B: Yes. Our parents broke tradition. Everyone was fighting over what I should be named. They were all yelling, "You're not supposed to name after the living?"

J: Cherna was yelling, I suspect. Probably, "Vat you doing? Vye? Vye? So much *mishigas*." [Craziness].

B: Yes. So they told her they named me after someone else. But my parents told me that Barbara was for Bernard and Ann was for Annette, my mother's middle name.



Sky, Heaven, Cary and Barney Davaris - 2011

J: Wendy, your son, Barney, married Cary and has Sky and Heaven.

W: Right.

J: What does your son do?

W: He's a store manager at Alberton.

J: Bryan married Linda and has Brady and Samantha.

W: Yes. Bryan works for Petco here in Valencia.

J: Shirley married David King and has Rob and Emma.

W: Roman. Rob is Roman's father's and David is Emma's father.

J: Her first husband's name was Rob?

W: Rob Rivera. She never married Rob. She married David and had Emma.

J: Bobbie, what about you and your brother?

B: John and I are each divorced with no children.

J: What does John do?

W: John is a substitute elementary teacher in Reno and he tends bar at the Golden Nugget.

J: Wendy and Bobbie, what do each of you do?

B: O.R. nurse. I started as a floor nurse in pediatrics and adults, went on to labor and delivery and post-partum, eventually ending up in the O.R.

W: I work with the Court here in L.A., in the Clerk's office. I hear that you're an attorney. What type of law do you do?

J: Very boring. Commercial litigation, business disputes, securities. Very unexciting.

W: So is my job. I handle traffic tickets.



Painting of Cherna Radov Bass, in Cherbourg, France, 1921-22, while awaiting passage on the *R.M.S. Olympic*. The gown was superimposed.

J: Did Cherna or your father say anything else about the passage from Russia?

W: The only thing that was mentioned to me was that, because of the malnutrition, when they went through France, they stopped at a farm house because my father didn't have any milk. Our grandmother went there and the lady in the farm house gave my grandmother some milk, but it was spoiled. She gave it to my Dad and that is only thing I remember her saying.

B: There is a gorgeous picture of Nanny, hand-painted in France.

J: I'd like a photo of that. In any case, your father did make it over, and through Ellis Island. He came on the February 15, 1922 passage on the *Olympic*.

B: I don't know those details. I know he had malnutrition. I used to ask him "Dad why is your tongue that way?" It was really cracked, a very strange looking tongue. He told me it was because Nanny had no milk because she wasn't eating. Then I was told by him that they were smuggled into France and they had to stay in France for awhile because Wolf was sick. They wouldn't have let him leave for Ellis Island because he had some kind of boil condition on his neck. They were afraid they wouldn't get in, because they screened you at Ellis Island.



Ellis Island Quarantine Ward

J: Joe and Cirka had the same concern with their son, Gus. Joe brought his younger sister, Ida, to stay with Gus if he were quarantined. [In the 1911 passage. See Ida's passport, or that of (as she was then known) Chana Chaya Radovskaia, A34-52].



Jewelry Wolf Bass made for Cherna as an engagement gift, around 1917. Cherna sewed it into her bra, so she could smuggle it out of Soviet Russia.

B: The jewelry they managed to take with them was really smuggled out. Our grandmother sewed her engagement gift from Wolf into her bra: earrings and a pendent. I have those. Also, he made himself a cigarette holder which doesn't hold any standard cigarettes today. He rolled his own and I even have the paper that he used to use. The cigarette holder is beautiful, with semi-precious and precious stones in it.

J: Can you take a picture of that?



Silver cigarette holder (with original paper to roll his own cigarettes) made around 1917 by Wolf (Velvel) Bass to celebrate his engagement to Cherna Radovskaia (Jenny Radov).

B: Yes. They are absolutely beautiful. The cigarette case was an engagement present for himself. That jewelry was all they could bring out.

J: When your father was ill at the end, he spent a lot of time with you, Bobbie, and told you stories that he heard from Cherna about Russia, is that right?

B: Yes. He had actually talked throughout his life about things with us. Then we grew up and became teenagers and had our own thing to do. You know how that goes. Dad had heart surgery in 1988 and I worked at St. Johns, the same hospital where he was admitted. From that point, I was pretty much coordinating his care.

J: Did he tell you anything else about life in Russia?

B: I was told of our grandmother starving, even with all the jewelry and money. They were starving. So she was standing in a bread line waiting for food or bread. The story is not pleasant. Do you want to hear it?

J: Yes.



1917 Russian Bread Line with Mounted Soldiers Watching.

B: She was standing in the bread line. There was a pregnant woman in front of her, almost ready to give birth, and a Cossack came by with a big sword and just sliced her open and the baby fell on the ground. I think that's where her fear of them, the Cossacks and their dogs, came from. She and dad told me that, in order to eat, they were giving diamonds away for bread, so that they wouldn't starve to death. The rest of the jewelry they threw away. If they got caught with them, they would be killed. So they threw them in the street.

J: The woman was obviously Jewish if she was in that community.

B: Yes. She was a Jewish woman. They just filleted her open.

J: That's terrible. I think the family near Kiev [likely in Fastov] did better after the Revolution because they were able to find food [in large part because of Morris and his activities with the railroads]. They didn't do very well in other ways because they were caught in the Kiev Pogrom. [See Humor, Cossacks & Pogroms, A63-66].



Three books by Russian Radovs of completely unknown family connection, first Aleksandr Radov and then the next two by Egor Radov.

J: There is no brother I know who was left. [Kayfman was a priest and Bernard had died]. It could have been a cousin. [In fact, it could have been Peter's child per his Naturalization Papers saying he had a child in Russia].

B: Maybe it was a cousin, but he never made it across. Because he was missing a leg, he wouldn't be allowed in.

B: There is one other thing I wanted to tell you about Russia. My father told me that somebody was left behind because he was missing a leg. I don't know who that was. I think it was one of Nanny Jenny's brothers or cousins. I'm not sure. But there was an amputee left in Russia.



Ellis Island Examination Station for Potential Immigrant Entry



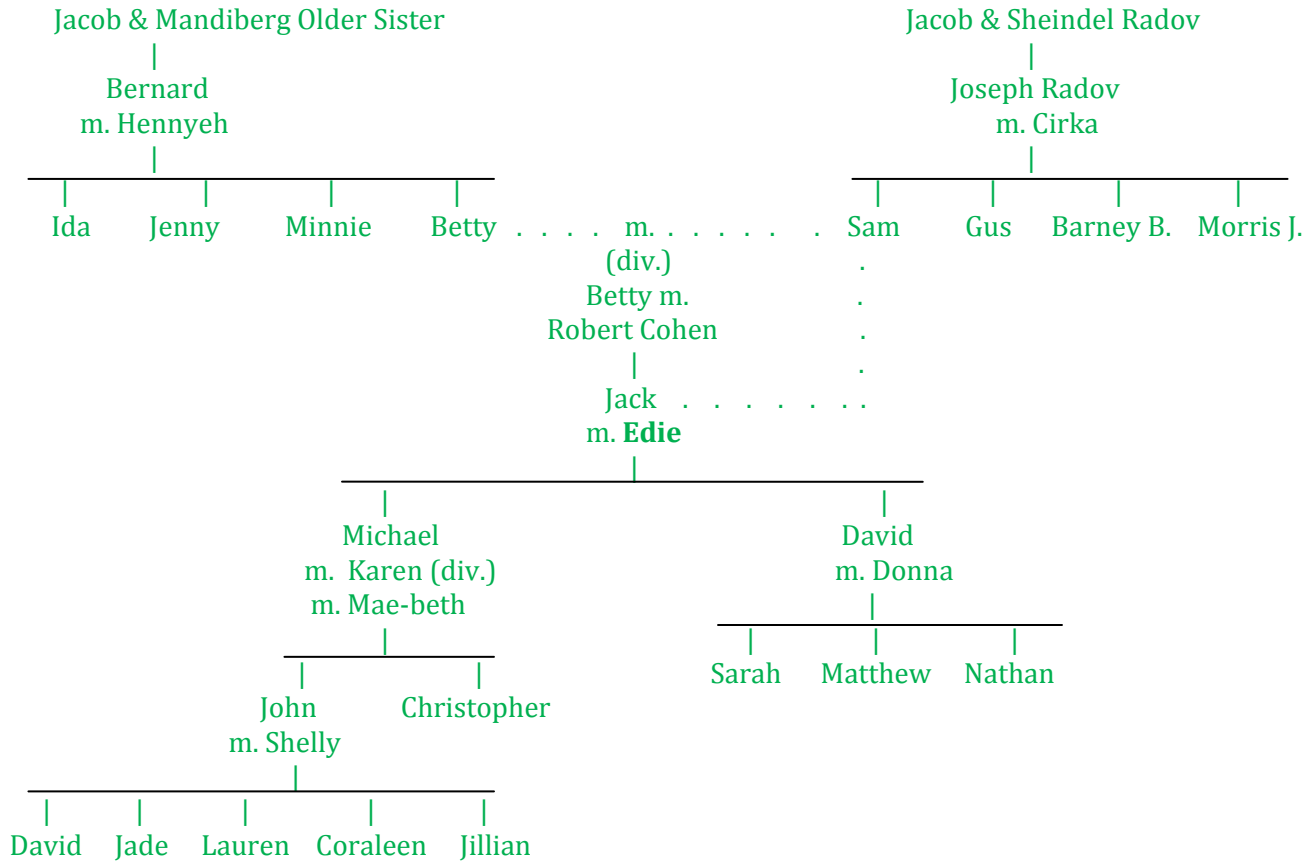
Cherbourg: The French port where the family waited for passage.

J: Another terrible story. Our grandparents somehow, on the same ship if different voyages, did make it.

W: Right. I was told that, when they were in France, there were a lot people in the streets escaping from Russia and they just waited their turn to come over.

J: They took a pretty good ship. The *Olympic* was the sister ship to the *Titanic*. [See Cherbourg & R.M.S. *Olympic*, A77-80].

EDIE RADOV



Edie Radov; Conversation with Joel Levin – Thursday, August 24, 2011

J: When did you marry Jack?

E: June 9, 1957.

J: Jack passed away in 2007, right?

E: Yes. He passed away the day before his birthday, April 28.

J: What's your birthday?

E: My birthday is August 1, 1929. I was 82 just a few days ago.

J: Congratulations.



Jack and Edie Radov

- E: Thank you.
- J: When you married Jack, Sam and Betty had long been divorced, right?
- E: Right. In fact, she was already married to Robert Cohen. She married Jack when he was 19 years old.
- J: You had two children?
- E: No. I had two boys when we got married. My Michael was 7, he was the same age as Jeff [Radov], Morris and Adele's son. Then I had a 3 year old, David.
- J: Did Jack adopt them?
- E: Yes. They have the name Radov. [See Jews, Adoption & Radovs, A121-122].
- J: Then they'll get on my list. When was Michael born?
- E: Let me think. Seems like yesterday he was a baby. April 24, 1950.
- J: What about David?
- E: David was born May 5, 1954.
- J: Did you ever see any of Betty's family?
- E: I knew Aunt Minnie and I knew Eileen. I met Eileen's brother.
- J: Sandy or Bernard?
- E: Yes. Sandy I knew and Bernard I knew. Bernard passed away. I called him Bernie.
- J: What do you remember about the three of them?
- E: What do I remember? I was never around them a whole lot. Sandy came out here a couple of times and Eileen had a daughter that lived here for a while. I saw her a couple of times. Jack was social, because we had a lot of friends, but he was not very family oriented. I was the one who always kept everything going with the family when he was alive. He just didn't think about his family a whole lot, I'm afraid.



Bernie Cohen



Betty and Sam Radov

J: What about Sam?

E: Sam lived in Los Angeles. Then when he had a stroke, I told Jack that he was really, really bad because he had problems with his legs. He didn't have circulation, like Jack. They amputated one of his legs and I told Jack that we're going to have to get him to San Diego. We did move him by ambulance to San Diego and he stayed in a nursing facility here because our house is full of steps, I have a tri-level home. I couldn't manage him here. In fact, Betty came here too and also lived. After Pops, Robert, passed away they were living in Florida with Adele, Pop's daughter. Not living with them, but she's the one who took care of them. When he [Robert] passed away, she said "I can't take of Betty, so Jack's going to have to come here immediately and take her and close the apartment." So that's what he did. She came out, too. She lived in a retirement facility and she could walk and everything, but she was almost totally blind. She used to wait until I was busy and then she would try to go up and down the stairs and I said, "Mom you're going to fall. Don't go up and down by yourself. If you want to come down, I'll bring you down, if you to go up, I'll take you up." Finally, it got to that every time I was busy, she'd try it by herself. Jack said enough of this and if she falls and breaks a hip, she won't be able to walk. So he put her into a nursing home that was very close to our house so we could see her real often.

J: Did you ever go to Erie?

E: I went to Erie twice. I went one time to Erie and then we went to Meadville to visit Adele and Morris. One time, Jack had to go to Boston and so I went to Erie and stayed at Mitzi's [Radov Kerness] house.



Morris J. and Adele Radov - 1945



San Diego Skyline

J: What did Jack do for a living in San Diego?

E: He was a salesman. He sold automotive parts.

J: Do you have email?

E: Do I have what, darling?

J: Do you have email?

E: No. I don't have any of that stuff. I never want to learn. My sons do it, but not me. I can barely change a light bulb. Jack was very, very protective of me and always did everything. I just never learned to do anything, because he never let me. In fact, I had never made a bill out in my life until he got sick and couldn't do it.

J: You took care of him night and day for 4 years when he got sick, right?

E: Yes, 4 years and 4 months. [Jack believed, not without justification, that many of his health problems were due to the union of first cousins, Sam and Betty, his parents].

J: Did you ever see the Radov family or Jack's family in L.A.? That is, Lena, Cherna.

E: I met Lena and I probably met Cherna too. But I didn't see them often. I think we only went up maybe a couple of times. We used to go when Jack's dad [Sam] was in the hospital. We went every weekend until we moved him down here. But we didn't see the rest of the family. I haven't seen them in years and years. I don't even know if they're still alive.

J: Do you remember Jack Thompson?

E: I remember Jack Thompson and his wife.

J: What do you remember about them?



Elizabeth and Jack Thompson

E: They came down a couple of times to visit us. This was before they adopted their children. Dolly and I talked a lot about it. I told her, I said, "Having a baby does not make you a parent. Living with a child and taking care of a child makes you a

parent. It won't make any difference if you have it or if you adopt it. If you like children, don't just not have any because you can't have any. Just adopt one." So she adopted a little girl first and then she adopted a boy. Or it was the other way around. She got a boy and a girl.

J: What kind of father was Jack to Michael and David?

E: He was a fantastic father. He couldn't have been better. He loved the boys and the boys just adored him.



Sam, Barney B., Jackie, Morris J. and Gus Radov (1953)

J: I remember that when I came to San Diego. I remember that well.

E: Yes. He was just a wonderful, wonderful father and he's a great grandfather. He was fantastic as to anything I wanted to do, he did it with me or if he wanted to do something, I did it with him. We had a very happy marriage.

J: Did you ever hear anybody speak of the old days, either when the family came from Russia or first settled in Erie?

E: Jack used to tell something about it. I said, "You know Jack, it's a shame that somebody doesn't do a history on this, because it's so fantastic." How they got out of Russia and how they had to escape. [See Bucharest and its Consul, A93-98]. I think grandma was probably pregnant and one in the basket and one by the hand. I think Sam was already born. I don't think Gus was born yet.



Joe and Cirka Radov

J: You're talking about Sarah or Cirka, when you say grandma?

E: Yes. Grandma. Yes, her name was Sarah. My granddaughter's name is Sarah.

J: Gus was barely born in Russia.



Fastov Station, Russia

E: So they weren't quite out of Russia then. I know Morris [P.] got his railroad car from his superior officer for his honeymoon. [Of course, they had been married for 2 years by that time and Luba was pregnant with Anna, facts M.P. seems to have forgotten when requesting a train car for his honeymoon]. [See Fastov, A71-72].

J: Right. Morris, you heard that, for his honeymoon with Luba, he borrowed the railroad car and whisked 22 people out of the Soviet Union.

E: Right. He picked up all the family and had the boats waiting for him to go across the river. [See Dnieper River, A89-92]. I remember all of that. It's just a shame that somebody didn't write that stuff down. Grandma and grandpa had a huge picture of all the people that they brought over with them on the same ship. [See Cherbourg & R.M.S. Olympic, A77-80].

J: Right. Do you remember anything more about that story that Jack told you?

E: I don't know. I guess they were having problems. You either went to Russian Orthodox or you died. I'm not sure exactly what they did. I just know a few of the sketches, but I did see the picture and I did hear the story of how they walked and they couldn't get passage or they couldn't get out or they only let so many people come in at a time.

J: Did you ever hear anything about the one son who didn't come over?

E: I never did but Jack said that. I have heard that somebody in Washington or Virginia or someplace that his name is Radov. R-A-D-O-V, spelled it just like we do. I don't know anybody that is named Radovsky, anybody from that part of the family.

- J: That's the only story you remember today.
- E: That's the only story I heard. Morris [J.] was born here.
- J: Barney B. and Morris, his brothers. They were born here.
- E: I met Barney Radov and his wife is named Betty. I think he was the only one who was tall like Jack was.



Morris J. and Barney B. Radov - 1925

- J: He's very tall and his son [Jay Radov] is even taller.
- E: I've never met him.



Jay Radov



Michael Radov

- J: Let me go through your family. Michael is 61.
- E: He just had his 60th birthday I think. He was born in 1950, I can't keep up with them. There'll getting old too quick.
- J: What's his wife's name?
- E: His wife's name is Mae-Beth. He was married before to a lady named Karen. They have two sons. She had a boy when they got married which he adopted. Then they had their own son and his name is Christopher. Christopher lives here in San Diego. He taught high school for a while, but now he's a highway patrolman, because he said he could never buy a house on a teacher's salary.

J: Christopher is the second boy?

E: Yes, and then John.

J: Do either John or Christopher have children?



Chris Radov

E: John has three adopted children and two of his own. He has five children all together. The oldest boy is David. Then the girl is Jade. She has a daughter named Laura. Laura is grown and she was grown when they got married. John didn't adopt her. But he adopted David and Jade. Then they had Coraleen and Jillian. I will send you all this stuff. Their names and their birthdays. I don't know it out of my brain. I have too many grandchildren. [Laughing].



John Radov



Jade Radov

J: OK.

E: Christopher is not married.



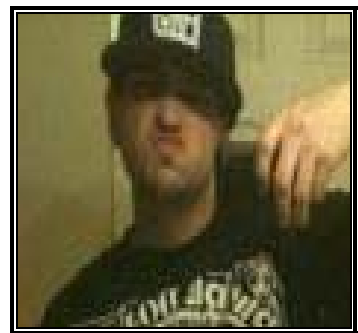
David Radov



Sarah Radov



Nathan Radov



Matthew Radov

J: What is John's wife name?

E: His wife's name is Shelly. It's actually Dawn, but everybody calls her Shelly. John is in some sort of protection thing for a company. I don't know exactly what he does. I know he has a uniform that he wears. He doesn't carry a gun or anything like that, but Christopher does.

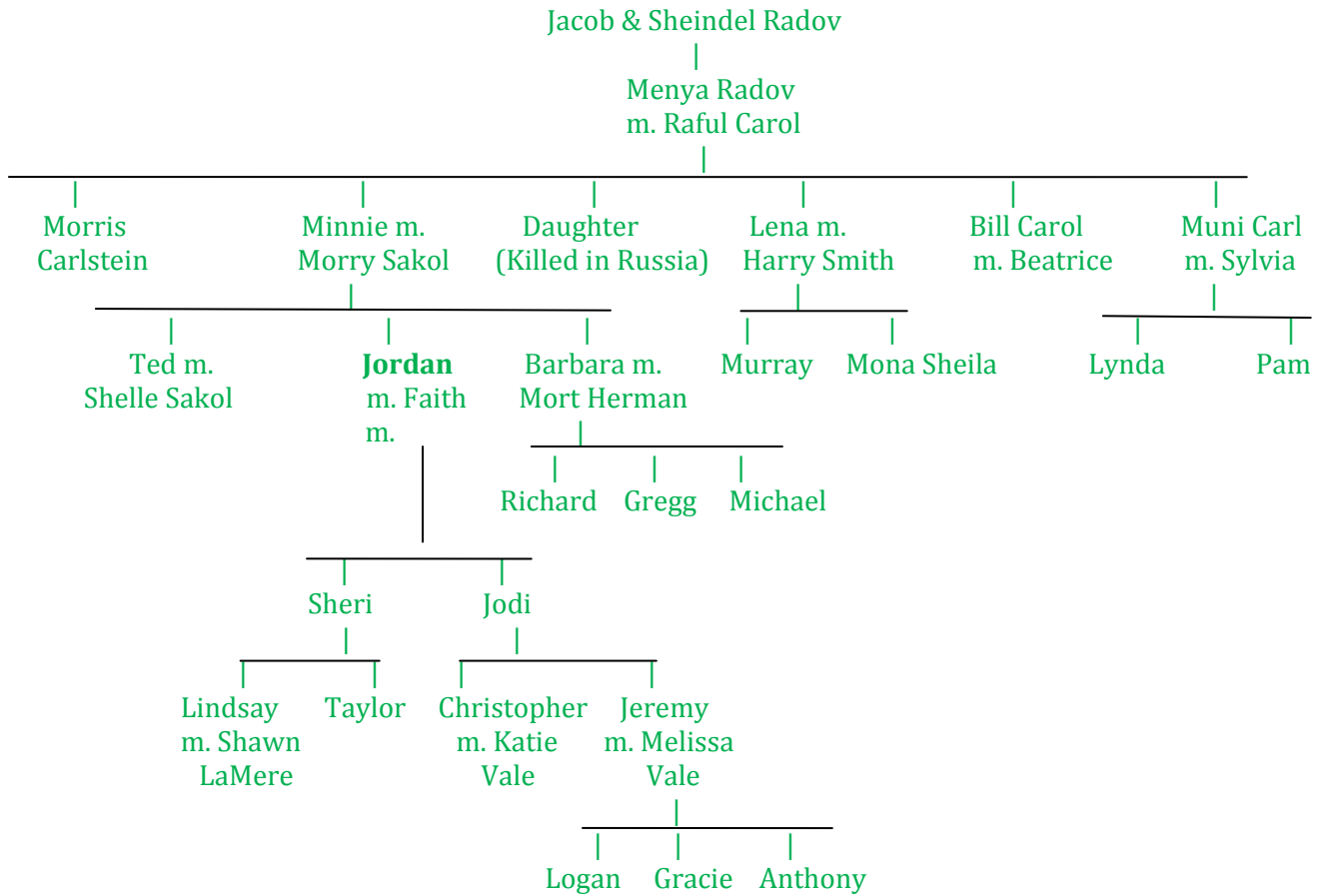
J: What about David's family?

E: David married Donna. They have 3 children: Sarah, Matthew and Nathan.



Top: Patti, Barney B., Jeff, Morris J., Jackie, Sam and Gus Radov
Bottom: Westy, Adele, Lynn, Eve, Cirka, Joe., Sandra, Nancy (standing) and Marci Radov (1953)

JORDAN SAKOL



Jordan Sakol. Conversation with Joel Levin, Wednesday, October 19, 2011

J: When were you born?

JS: I was born September 19, 1933.

J: Do you have any memories of grandparents?



Raful Carol

JS: Oh sure. I remember Bobsie? Don't ask me how to spell it.

J: Was that the same as Menya or was that his second wife?

JS: The second wife. I didn't know the first one.

J: What you remember about Raful and Bobsie?

- JS: He was sort of a very rough character. Nice but rough. He had a stand in the fruit market. They had a huge fruit market in Erie and he had a stand there. When I went to Erie on vacation, I used to work with him in the fruit market, come home all the money and the change was in a paper bag. We used to sit down at the table, empty it out and count the money. He was a very, very nice guy. He was tough, but he was very nice. Very intimidating.
- J: You said tough and rough and intimidating. In what way?
- JS: In his actions. He never spoke softly. As a kid, I was just a kid at the time, maybe 7, 8 years, 9 years old, he just came on to me very hard. Maybe the reason was that is just how he appeared.
- J: What do you know of Bobsie?
- JS: Bobsie came from Cleveland, Shaker Heights, Ohio, and I guess they got married. I don't know where they met. How, I don't know, because I was too young at the time. They moved to Erie and they lived in Erie. He had this fruit stand in the big market.
- J: Did she pass away before Raful?
- JS: Yes.
- J: Did she have any children?
- JS: Yes. But don't ask me about them, because I really don't know. I know she had kids.
- J: Did you ever hear any stories about life in Russia?
- JS: I know they lost a kid in Russia from some kind of disease. It was girl. She caught a disease and she died in Russia as a young girl. That was one of my mother's sisters.
- J: Was she a victim of a pogrom? That is what I heard.
- JS: I don't know that. All I know is that she got sick and that she passed away.
- J: You don't if it was a result of an injury or disease?
- JS: No. I heard disease.



Morris Carlstein

J: What about the other brother Morris? Did you ever hear about him?

JS: No. There was another brother? I didn't know that.

J: There's a grave near Menya and Raful's in Erie and it says Morris Carlstein. It has the father as Raful. Carlstein was Raful's name. It appears he came over with your mother and Raful, before the rest of the family.

JS: No. I have no idea.

J: On the gravestone it says 1915. There was always this suspicion that he was Raful's son. [Raful's last names include Carol, Carrol, Carlstein and Karolstejh].

JS: Then evidently he was.

J: On the grave, it says, "Son of Raful."

JS: Then it must be. I don't know a lot of that stuff.

J: Do you know when your mother came here? It might well be 1908.

JS: I don't know the date, but I know she was young girl when she came over.

J: Do you anything about how it was that some of the family came over in 1908, some in 1911, and then everybody else 1922? Your mother seems to be in the first of those three.

JS: Right.

J: Your mother, Minnie, never discussed life in Russia before she left?

JS: No. Never talked about it.

J: Where were you born?

JS: Erie.

J: What did your father [Morry] do?

JS: I believe my father was in the shoe business, if I'm not mistaken.



Morry and Minnie Sakol

J: That was also his business in Chicago. When did you parents get married?

JS: You know, I don't even know. I have no idea.

J: Ted was born in 1927, is that right?

JS: 1927, right.

J: When did you move to Chicago?

JS: I was just a young kid when we moved there. Probably 2 or 3 years old.

J: Where did you live in Chicago?

JS: On the Westside of Chicago if that means anything to you.



Jordan and Faith Sakol

J: I used to live in Hyde Park.

JS: You used to live in Hyde Park?

J: I remember you, Faith and Ted and Shelle from going to the U. of C. back in the 60s and 70s. I know it's been a long time. I have a distinct memory of coming up and seeing the family.

JS: That was a while ago.

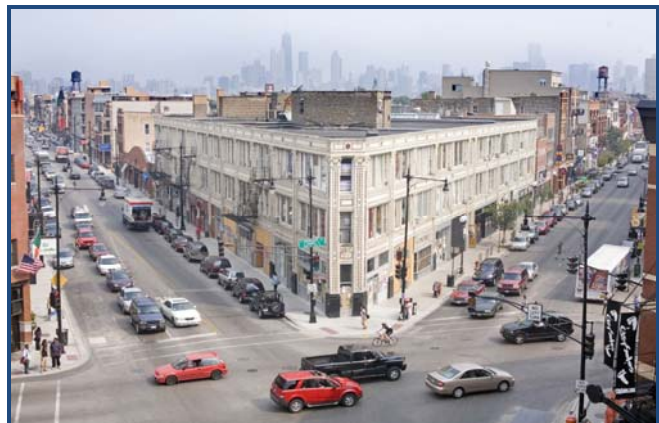
J: Your parents had a shoe business all their lives?

JS: All their lives they were in the shoe business.

J: Where was the shoe business?

JS: On Milwaukee and Damen.

J: That's where Ted opened up his store.



Flat Iron Building on Damen and Milwaukee
in Chicago

JS: Right across the street.

J: Ted was in the photography business.

JS: Yes. I used to work for him. He was in the baby picture business. Strictly baby pictures. I worked for him for maybe 11 or 12 years. Then I went on my own, but I didn't do babies. I did weddings, Bar Mitzvahs.



Ted and Shelle Sakol - 1950



Cicero and Peterson in Chicago

J: Where was your shop?

JS: The original one was on Peterson and Cicero in Chicago.

J: OK. What do you remember about Erie?

JS: I came to Erie on every vacation. Winter and summer vacation and I stayed at Aunt Lena's house.

J: Lena was living in Erie then?

JS: Yes. I stayed with Lena and Harry all the time except for one or two times.

J: You were about Murray's age?

JS: Yes. Murray was a little bit younger than I was. About a year younger than me.

J: What do you remember about Murray?

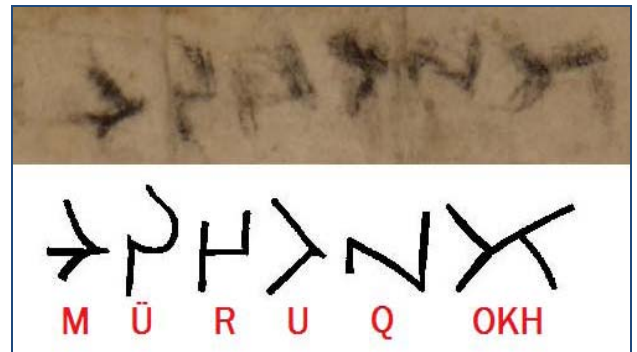


Murray Smith

JS: He was a super guy. He had the biggest dimples I've ever seen on a boy or a man. He was absolutely gorgeous. Big smile, he was always smiling. He had a paper route like in 7 in the morning. I used to go with him on the paper route to deliver the papers. And his sister was a nutcase, may she rest in peace. She was crazy, Sheila.

J: Why?

- JS: She was a goofball. She was a strange kid she was. [Laughing]. She was nice, but she was a character.
- J: In what way?
- JS: Just in her actions like what she used to say, what she used to come up with. I'm not saying anything bad about her. She was a nice kid, but she was just a little strange.
- J: What else do you remember about your aunts and uncles, Joe and Cirka, Morris and Luba, and Cherna?
- JS: Luba was the best of all. She was absolutely great. She was a Litvak [Lithuanian, or Lithuanian Jew]. I don't know if you knew that or not.
- J: But she was from Kiev.
- JS: Yes. I'm almost positive that she was a Litvak in the way she talked. She had that certain twang in her voice. It sounded like Litvak.
- J: I think she was a Khazar Jew, that is, a separate people who had converted *en masse* to Judaism. They lived in Kiev and Volgograd. She was likely Khazar, hardly Litvak. [See Khazars, A53-54].
- JS: She was great. She was absolutely the best.
- J: When you say that she had a little bit of a different way of talking.
- JS: Her speech, accent. It always sounded to me that she was a Litvak. They had a certain twang when they talked.
- J: OK.
- JS: She was great, she really was.
- J: What about Joe and Cirka?
- JS: Oh, sure. I don't have a great memory of them now but I knew them at the time. I was there twice a year to go on vacation. That was maybe 60 years ago.
- J: When you were in Erie, you were friendly with Murray and with Jack Thompson.



Early Khazar from 10th Century Kiev, without Pronunciation Guide

JS: Absolutely. I'm looking at a picture of Jack right now. He was a great guy. We were very, very close. Murray, Jack, myself. We hung around with.

J: By the time you were in high school, where you still on the Westside?

JS: Yes. I graduated from Marshall High School.

J: Did you ever move to a neighborhood further north?

JS: No. We were always on the Westside until I got married. When I got married, then I moved to Rogers Park.

J: When did you and Faith get married?

JS: 1954.



The Park of the Rogers Park Neighborhood

J: You have two children. Sheri and Jodi, right? And four grandchildren, Lindsay, Taylor, Christopher and Jeremy. Is that right?



Sheri Sakol Popp



Lindsay Popp LaMere



Taylor Popp

JS: Right, and three great-grandchildren.

J: OK. I don't have that. Who are the great-grandchildren?



Jeremy Vale

JS: The great-grandchildren all belong to Jeremy. Logan, Gracie and Anthony.

J: What is Jeremy's wife's name?

JS: Melissa.



Christopher Vale

J: Is Christopher married?

JS: Yes. Married to Katie. Taylor is not married.

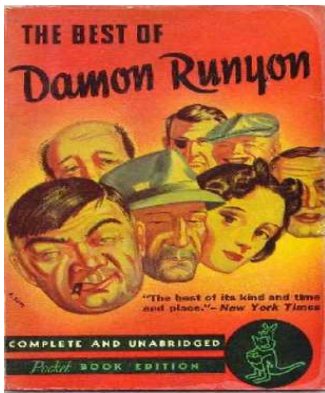
J: And Lindsay.

JS: Lindsay is married to Shawn Lemere.

J: Faith passed away about 4 or 5 years ago.

JS: She died June 6, 2010.

J: Oh. Recently, I'm sorry. What do you remember about Muni and about Bill Carol?



Several in the family found
Bill Carol to be a Damon
Runyon figure

JS: Bill was absolutely great. He was in the decorating business and painting business and he was just great. He was a Damon Runyon character. He really was. He did things his way and he didn't care if anybody liked it or didn't like it. He spoke out what was on his tongue. If he hurt somebody, if he didn't hurt somebody. What was on his mind, came out of his mouth. Not be embarrassed, but that's the way he was. Of course, he was married to Bea, and had two kids.

J: The reports on Bill aren't universally good.

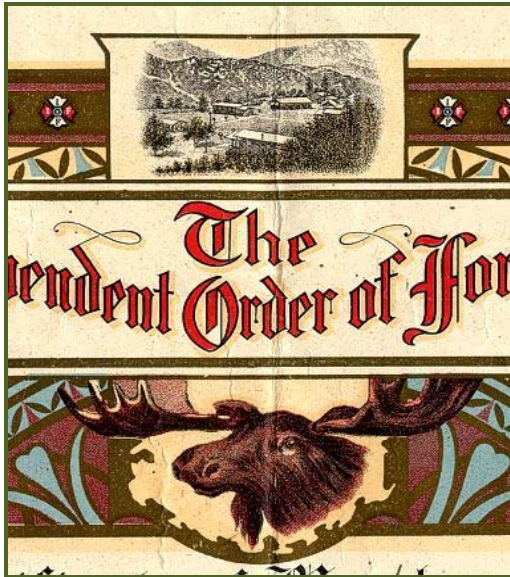
JS: Right. He left the whole family in New York. He was from New York. Although he did live in Erie at one time, he came from New York. He left his family high and dry. I think there were three kids.

J: And he never saw the kids again.

JS: He never got with the kids again to my knowledge. That's when he came to Erie when he left New York and understand that's when he came to Erie. He was a character. Like I said, whatever he did he didn't care what anybody thought or anything like that. He did what he wanted to do and if you didn't like it too bad.

J: What do you remember about Muni?

JS: Muni was a very, very nice man. Sylvia was a great wife, great person. The kids are great. The whole family was very, very nice. The only thing I had against Muni was that he sold insurance for the Foresters. Now I'll tell you something, I hadn't mentioned that in 50 years and it came to me just now. [Laughing].



Foresters: Union, Fraternal Order
and Insurance Company

J: You said the Foresters.

JS: Yes, the Foresters. They were an insurance company.

J: Was that bad?

JS: It was bad because they were supposed to be attached to the Communist Party.

J: Oh. So you don't have anything against him, it was just his politics.

JS: His politics, right. His politics were a little to the left.

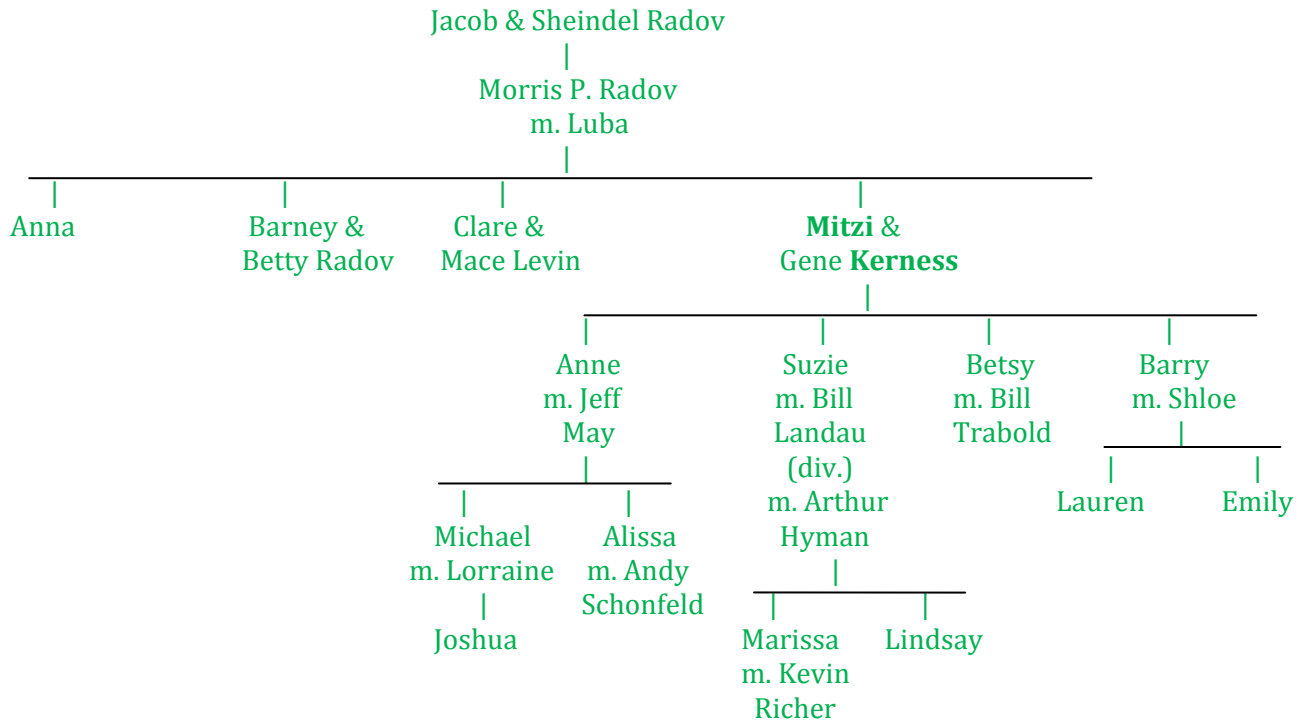
J: Yes. But he was a nice guy.

JS: Super. Absolutely the best you could ask for. Really, there is no comparison with him and Bill. Nice, not nice. Bill wasn't really nice. He was to a point, but Muni you couldn't compare the two of them. The whole family was great, Muni, Sylvia, the girls Lynda and Pam. They really were.



Muni, Pam and Sylvia Carl

MITZI RADOV KERNES



Mitzi Radov Kerness; Conversation with Joel Levin – Monday, August 22, 2011

J: After Anna died, Luba and Morris changed.

M: I was speaking to Marvin Heldeman, now a doctor in New York. Well, we both remembered that for your mother and me, the Heldeman children were our closest friends. It was Rose Heldeman who was able to get my mother out of her funk when my sister [Anna] died. Our fathers did business [scrap] together and my father said to Morris Heldeman, "You have to help me with your wife, I can't get my wife to get out of bed." It was Rose Heldeman that got my mother going. They came to visit [from Jamestown, N.Y.] with the kids, and Marvin [Heldeman] said that Luba treated Marvin and Regina like her own. Regina was always my closest friend. Marvin remembers they were with them and his mother said, "It is a tossup whether Marvin is going to be a doctor or a concert pianist." Rose Heldeman said to Marvin, "Don't play the piano, because that was Anna's great passion and it will upset Luba." One day, they came to visit and mother said to Marvin, "Marvin would you play the piano for m?." So they were very happy. Another time, when my mother went with them to eat in a restaurant, the restaurant didn't have a table cloth, so she wouldn't eat there. After that, Marvin and his cousin Richard would be going out to eat in New York and they would start to walk in and would say "Luba wouldn't eat here, there are no table cloths, we're not going in here." Marvin remembers that even though there was a maid or a cleaning lady, my mother was always on her knees scrubbing

the kitchen floor and the basement steps. The best story was when he would have Sunday brunch at his house, well his mother didn't like to cook, we would go to Erie and we would come to our house and my mother would have this great big spread for Sunday brunch. We would be sitting in the dining room he said your aunt and uncle lived next door and one of the kids would yell "Here comes your aunt, hide the trays." He remembers that my mother loved to cook and put things out.

J: Since we spoke, you remembered a trip to New York with Lena.

M: Oh yes.

J: How old were you then?

M: I went on my first train ride with Lena. We went to visit her girlfriend, who had a daughter my age.

J: How old were you?

M: About 12 or 13. I didn't know when we came that we would stay in a tenement. I didn't know what a tenement was and I didn't know that every day you went to change the icebox and that every day you went down and got fresh milk and fresh bagels and came home with lice. I got head lice at the tenement. Paula Bass, that would Louis Bass' wife, picked me up there and took me into New York City and took me to Radio City and to Mama Leone's.

J: What do you remember about Louis and Paula?



Man of La Mancha

M: They were just wonderful people. Her father was a furrier, Mitchnick, that's who it was. Her brother either wrote the music or the lyrics to *The Man of La Mancha*.

J: Her brother did.

M: Yes. Paula's brother Mitch. [Irwin Michnick, who took the stage name Mitch Leigh [b. 1928], wrote the music to *La Mancha* and the jingle *Nobody Doesn't Like Sara Lee*].

J: Mitch.

M: I forgot what he's listed as in the playbill, but his last name was Michnick.

J: Wasn't he fixed up with my mother?

M: Yes. He came to visit us and took your mother out. Sure. In fact, I remember he borrowed my father's car and he probably didn't drive that much in New York. [In fact, Morris was expressly under the opinion that every male in America knew how to drive]. I remember by Strong Vincent [High School] was a bridge going across. It was a one way, one car bridge and he got into an accident and hit the bridge.

J: Didn't he take my mother out on a date and try to serenade her with a clarinet?

M: I knew he had a clarinet. He played it for us in the recreation room.

J: I think he actually had more of a dating interest in my mother from what I understand.

M: Oh, I'm sure.



Louis Bass

J: What did Louis do in New York?

M: I don't know. I do know that he stayed with us for a while in Erie, lived on the third floor, and he was an artist, but I don't really know. Then they moved to California when he came out of the service. He may have been in the service when I was in New York, because it was just Paula that wined and dined me and took me to her mother's house and she was living at home.

J: But Louis lived with you in Erie?

M: Either one summer or one year, he lived on our third floor.

J: This would have been in the late 1930s, before the war?

M: No, it was in the 1940s.

J: But before WWII.

M: Yes, it had to be before, because then he went in the service.

J: Right, so 1940 or 1941.

M: Right.

J: What about his brother Barney?



Barney Bass

M: I just remember that his daughter came to visit us one summer.

J: Who was that?

M: I don't remember her name. I know that Barney's wife was Shirley and she was a big girl and I wanted to see if we could fix her up or something, but I don't remember much about her. She had a nice voice. That's all I remember.

J: When you went to California, you were there when Murray died, right?

M: Yes. What happened is I think once something was wrong and I watched all the boys, and your mother went to California with dad. We didn't want him to go alone and my mother didn't want to go. So your mother watched my daughters, before Barre was born. I went to California with my father, because Lena called and said Murray had been in an accident and she sounded so desperate. My father said, "I'll be out."



Murray Smith

J: Did you take the train or fly out?

M: Oh no, we flew out.

J: Murray had been in the accident and he died shortly.

M: He was in what you would call ICU today when we arrived. Then he died and we stayed for the funeral.

J: Did Murray have any children?

M: I don't remember. I know he married a Catholic girl and his mother [Lena] went to his house and there was a cross over the bed, over Murray's wife's bed.

J: Eileen Cohen Goldman remembers spending some time in Erie with you. Do you remember that?

M: Oh yes. She came to visit me.

J: What do you remember about that?



Luba and Morris Radov – 1964

M: We loved having her and we wined and dined. It was just wonderful how I remembered that I enjoyed having her there. I remember a luncheon in her honor and also remember that I had a sinus infection. These are the crazy things you remember. I just remember her coming to visit and I loved having her.

J: You also remember going to New York with Luba and Morris?

M: We would drive in and I always got car sick because I couldn't eat in the morning, and my father would smoke a cigar, and Clare and I would sleep in the backseat. I do not know whether Clare was on this trip. I remember going through the Holland Tunnel and thinking well we're almost there. I had driven to New York with my parents so much and I remember going to the Yiddish theater with them. We pulled up to the house and my father had MD on his license plate and so the police came over and didn't give us a ticket because they thought my father was a doctor from Pennsylvania.



Yiddish Theatre Poster

J: Why did he have MD on his plate?

M: It just happened to be that way. It didn't mean anything. It just happened to be, by chance, that on the license plate was MD.

J: In English, what was your father's middle name?

M: Morris Phillip Radov. Moishe, in Yiddish.

J: Obviously, you have four kids, Anne, Suzie, Betsy and Barry. Anne is named after Anna, your sister, right?

M: She was born on my parent's anniversary and she's the one in the family that looks the most like Anna.

J: Who was Barry named after?



Barbara Sakol and Barry Kerness

M: Barry was named after Ted and Jordan's sister, Cookie.

J: He was named after Barbara.

M: Right. You know what? Wait a minute. Sheila in California had a son named Barry Alan, just like I did. Both named after Cookie.

J: You have four children and how many grandchildren?

M: 6. I must say 7 and almost 8, because I consider them, once they get married, I take the other ones along.

J: Who are Anne's kids?

M: Michael, who is married to Loraine.

J: Anne's kids are Michael and Alyssa and Michael is married to Loraine. Alyssa is getting married to Andy Schonfeld.

M: Right.

J: Suzie has two daughters, Marissa and Lindsay. Who's Marissa married to?

M: She's engaged to Kevin.

J: Barry and Chloe have two daughters.

M: Lauren and Emily.



Merissa, Lindsay, Alissa, Mitzi and Michael - 2011



Emily and Lauren Kerness - 2010



Bill and Betsy Trabold

J: Betsy has no children.

M: No.

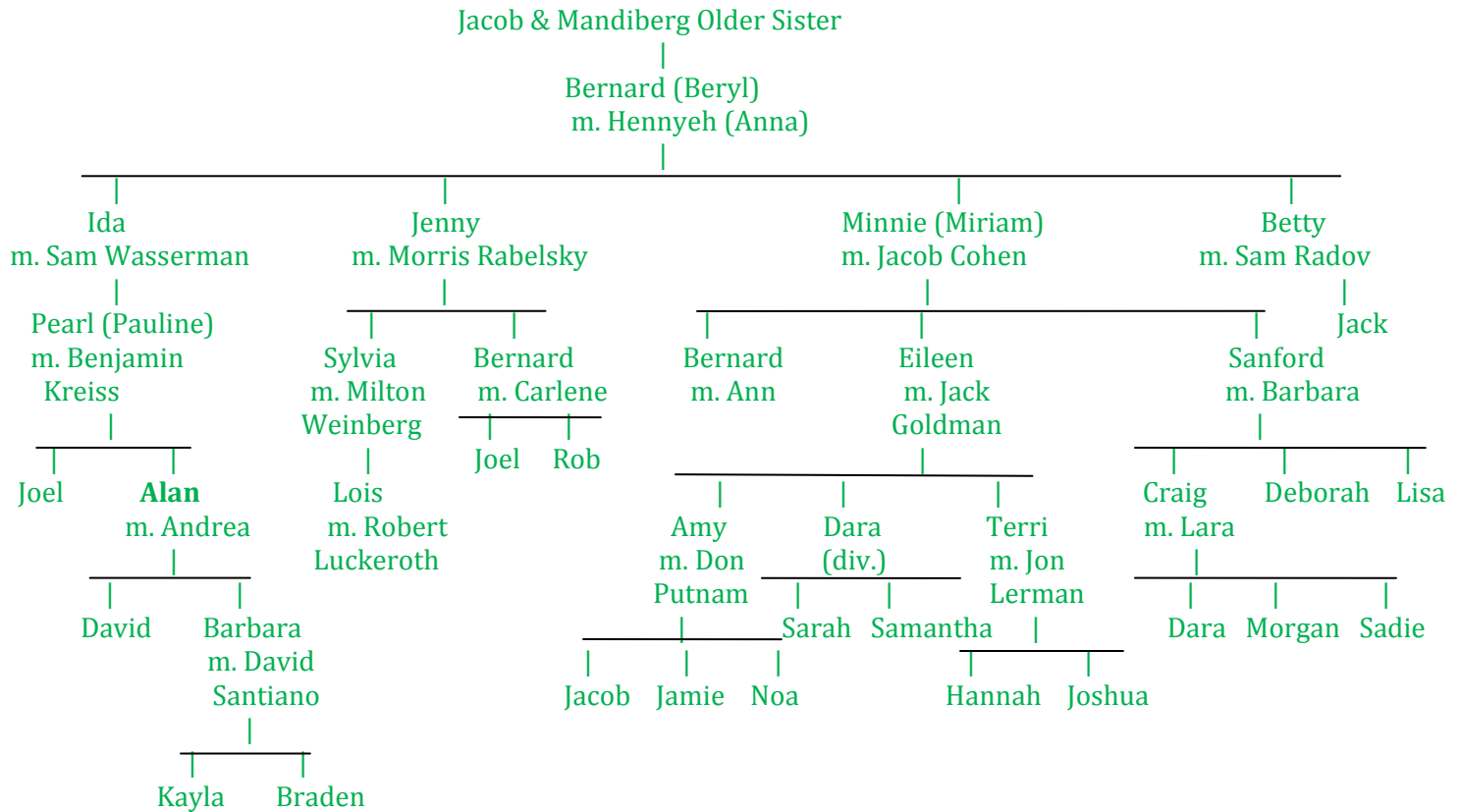
J: See how easy that was. I don't think there's anything you recalled hearing about Russia?

M: No, I never did.



Top row: Steve Akins, Michael May, Bill Trabold, Arthur Hyman, Kevin Richer and Barry Kerness
Front row: Betsy Trabold, Suzie Hyman, Lorriane May, Lindsay Landau, Jeff and Anne May, Alissa and Andy Schonfeld, Mitzi Kerness, Merissa Landau, Emily, Lauren and Shloe Kerness (2011)

ALAN KREISS



Alan Kreiss; Conversation with Joel Levin – Thursday, October 6, 2011

J: Let me start from the beginning.
Your grandmother was Ida. Right?

A: Hennyeh. Was that Ida?



Beryl (in superimposed uniform) and Hennyeh Radov

J: Hennyeh was your great-grandmother. Let me see if I've got this right. Your parents were Benjamin and Pearl, right?

A: Right. Her name was really Pauline.

J: Her parents were Ida and Sam.



Benjamin and Pearl Kreiss

A: This is the first I'm hearing of Ida.

J: Ida's mother was Hennyeh. Hennyeh had four daughters. Ida, Jenny, Minnie and Betty. Is that right?

A: I can't say I know my mother's mother's name as being Ida. But when you say Hennyeh, I do remember Hennyeh.

J: That would be your great-grandmother.

A: She actually raised my mother, with my mother's aunts, Jenny, Minnie and Betty.

J: Betty married Sam Radov.

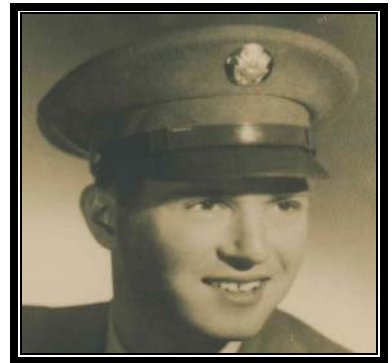
A: Yes.

J: Did you ever meet Jack, their son?

A: Jackie, yes. He lived with us, right after he came home from Korea, in 1953.

J: How did that happen?

A: He needed to get his feet back on the ground, what to do with his life. No direction. My father [Benjamin] took him under his wing and made him a salesman.



Jack Radov

J: What did your father do for a living?

A: My father was a salesman. A manufacturer's rep. Same company, all his life. Mirro Aluminum. Pots and pans, coffee-makers.



Levittown, New York

- J: Where did you live?
- A: Levittown, New York, out on Long Island.
- J: Levittown was famous because it had row after row of similar houses. One of the first planned towns.
- A: They were rubber stamps. [Laughs]. They made four model homes and 15 square miles or something like that.
- J: How was it growing up where all the houses looked the same?

A: It was better than growing up in an apartment in the city. [Laughing]

J: Is that where you started?

A: Yes. I was born in the Bronx.

J: What neighborhood?

A: Pelham Parkway, in 1942.

J: Your brother was Joel?

A: Joel, yes, a year and a half older than I was.

J: Good name. When did he pass away?

A: He was 53, about. 16 years ago. Never married. He lived in Florida.



Pelham Parkway, Bronx

J: So when did you leave the Bronx?

A: When I was 11 or 12.

J: So you started school in the Bronx?

A: P.S. 105.

J: What do you remember about your grandparents, Ida and Sam?

A: Ida, I don't. She was already long deceased. Sam had a second wife named, Dora. I remember Sam very clearly. Every summer, we would spend probably at least a week with him. In Coney Island, he always got a bungalow.



Hennyeh with four daughters: Ida, Jenny, Minnie and Betty

J: Hennyeh was older, obviously, as Ida's mother. Do you remember her?

A: Just the name.

J: Was your mother born in New York?

A: She was born in New York. Both my parents were born in this country.

J: Hennyeh came over from either Kiev or nearby with her brother in 1911 and brought the four girls, Ida, Jenny, Minnie and Betty.

A: No, I didn't know that. They weren't born in this country?

J: They were not born here. Their father, Beryl, died of appendicitis at 26 in the back of a donkey or horse cart, while being led by his father to the hospital.

A: Really?

J: Did you visit Erie?

A: Once, in my senior year of high school. It was either 1959 or 1960. I worked for my cousin, Bernie Cohen. He was selling Disa Electronics. He was a pretty bright guy to unload cartons. He dragged me to Cleveland for a trade show. On the way back, we stopped in Erie.



Cleveland Convention Center

J: And you met people?

A: I met a whole bunch of people. [Laughing]. None of whom I can remember.



Jenny and Morris Rabelsky

J: Did you know the Rabelskys very well?

A: Yes. They lived close to us in the Bronx. They were within walking distance. They would come here and we would go there.

J: Which Rabelskys?

A: Bernie and Carlene and eventually their two sons. They were younger than me.

J: They had two sons?

A: I want to say Rob is one of them. I think he lives in Florida, Fort Lauderdale.

J: What did Bernie do for a living?



Charlene and Bernie Rabelsky - 1955

A: He was a pattern cutter for fabric and pocket books. Whatever needed a pattern, he was good at laying out. I remember him. A very nice guy. Very short. Most of the Cohens and Radovs were big people. He was a WWII vet. He never spoke about the war.

J: Did you know Sylvia and Bill?

A: I met Sylvia several times. She lived in the Bronx. Later they moved to L.A. Bill was a TV repairman for the original Dumont black and white TV sets.



Dumont Black & White Television

J: Did you know Jenny and Morris?

A: Yes. They were my god-parents.

J: Jenny was born in Russia. What do you remember of her?

A: Wow. I didn't know that. I guess I never asked. It wasn't something spoken about. [Laughing]. She was nice, quiet. Morris was fun, put shadows on the wall. They lived in the Bronx also.

J: What did Morris do for a living?

A: He was a social worker.



Jack Cohen

J: You knew Minnie and Jack?

A: He was a printer in Manhattan. Maybe Greenleaf Printing. He was a big name in New York in printing. Minnie was a fabulous lady. Always had an open house. Always took care of you. Couldn't do enough for you. Nice lady.

J: Did they speak Yiddish to you?

A: Everybody spoke English. My mother would talk to her father and my father when she didn't want us kids to know anything. When she didn't want my father to know something, she would speak Russian to her father. My father would get upset.

J: What was growing up in the Bronx like?

A: It was a confined neighborhood. You were restricted to living in two blocks.

J: Were you brought up religious?

A: My mother kept a kosher home until I was 5 or 6. Then my brother got sick and the doctor said we have to give him iodine. The only way to get that then was in seafoods. Certain shrimps are loaded with iodine. There were no pills then. She told the Jewish doctor, "You know, I keep a kosher home." He said, "What do you want me to do for you? That is the cure. He needs the iodine." I remember clearly my grandfather coming over and they held a family meeting. She said, "What do I do?" The home was kosher. He said, "There is no question what you do. You have to take care of your children. Kosher law says you have to do it right." So she stopped having a kosher home because she started making shrimp for my brother. [See Familiarity, Theology & the World, A108-111].



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Recently Developed Kosher Iodine

J: Eventually, you left home.

A: I went to college, then the army, worked for wire companies, got married to Andrea, had 2 children.



Top row: David Kreiss, Alan Kreiss, Braden, David and Barbara Santiano

Front row: Andrea Kreiss, Murray Rabin, Kayla Santiano and Tilly Cashman (2011)

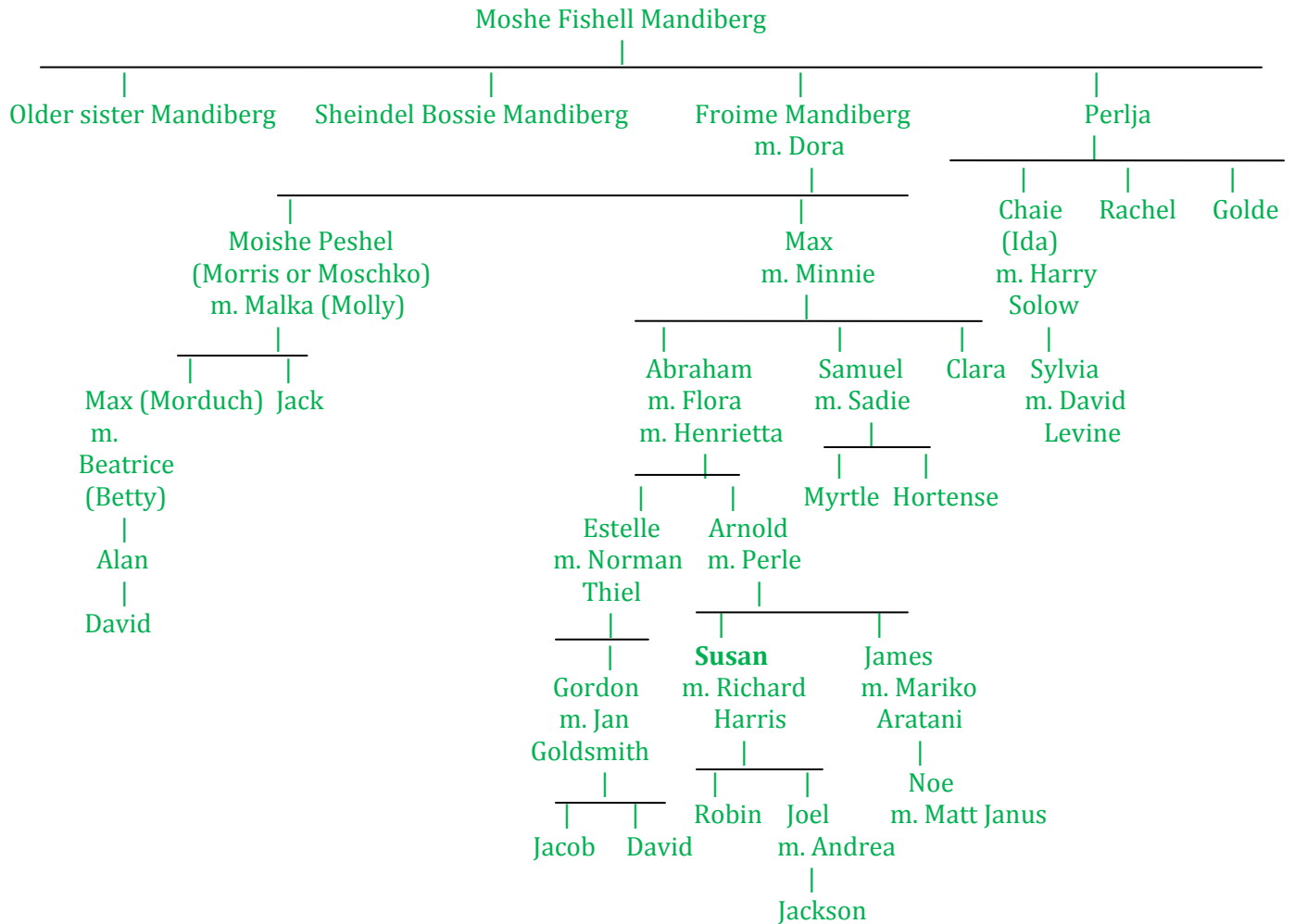
J: David and Barbara.

A: Right. And grandchildren Kayla and Braden.

J: You moved to Dartmouth, Massachusetts.

A: I've been there ever since.

SUSAN MANDIBERG



Susan Mandiberg; Conversation with Joel Levin – Wednesday, January 25, 2012

J: Susan, when were you born?

S: August 20, 1947.



Early 20th Century Hunter, New York, in the Catskills

J: Your parents were Arnold and Perle?

S: Yes. They are deceased.

J: Where was Arnold born?

S: In Hunter, New York.

J: His sister was Estelle.



Flora and Abraham Mandiberg

S: Yes.

J: Did you know your grandparents, Abraham and Flora?

S: Well here's the story. When my father was somewhere between his 4th and 5th birthday, his mother Flora died. I think there was a flu epidemic.

J: What's your guess on the year?

S: 1920 or 1921. [The Spanish flu pandemic lasted from June 1918 to December 1920. It killed as many as 100 million people, 6% of the world's population and infected 500 million, 30% of the globe]. Essentially my grandfather Abe left Estelle and Arnold with Flora's family, the Gordons. Estelle and Arnold were raised by their grandmother, Flora's mother. Then when she got old and couldn't do it, Flora's brother, Harry, and his wife May took over. We always treated Harry and May as our grandparents because they were the ones who really raised my dad and my aunt. Abe moved back to New York City and married a woman named Henrietta. We visited them once or twice when we were kids and spent an afternoon at their house in the Bronx. There was no real love or any real attachment. My father really never knew his dad because there was basically no contact when he was growing up.

J: When was your dad born?

S: My dad was born in 1916.

J: Abe had two siblings, Samuel and Clara. Did you know them?

S: We were very close to Clara. She was a huge part of our lives. Yes, I knew her very well, was very close to her. Sam was a ne'er-do-well. He was addicted to gambling. He would be gone for long periods of time from his wife and daughter. Clara was a schoolteacher. She basically supported Sam's family and Sam. He gambled. I, again, met him, but I can't say I really knew him.



Clara, Samuel and Abraham Mandiberg – 1900s

J: He's deceased now, right?



Clara Mandiberg

S: Yes.

J: Where did Sam and Clara live?

S: Clara lived in Brooklyn. Sam, when he was at home with his family, also lived in Brooklyn. Clara never married.

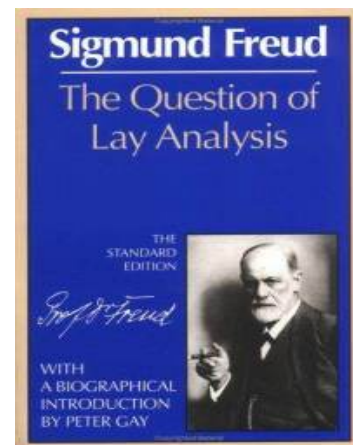
J: Sam had two children, Myrtle and Hortense.

S: He did. Neither of them ever married. They both moved to Los Angeles. I knew them growing up. We were very close.

J: What did they do?

S: Hortense was a junior high school art teacher. Myrtle was a Freudian lay analyst who focused her practice on children. She was one of the early lay analysts in the United States and she was one of the first to have a practice that focused on children. She was an M.S.W. [Master of Social Work].

J: What did Abe do?



Freud's thoughts on Myrtle's profession

S: I don't know.

J: What kind of gambling – cards, horses – did Sam do?

S: I have no idea. I suspect all of it. (Per James Mandiberg, Abe and Sam enjoyed a short-lived and unsuccessful Vaudeville career).



Dora Mandiberg holding Max or Morris –
1800s

J: Do you have any knowledge of what happened in the generation before Max and Minnie, and Froime and Dora?

S: I heard that there was all kinds of weird things that went on in that generation. The Max, Minnie generation. I suspect that if I told you about it, I would end up calling and saying "Wait, wait, don't publish that."

J: Can you give it in a semi-sanitized form and maybe I can make an allusion to it.

S: Dora was Max's mother, but I have a notation on the back of that photograph that I sent you that says that Dora was Minnie's mother. So I think there was some ambiguity there. The stories that I heard had to do with an elicit relationship between Dora and Max.

J: But Max was Mandiberg.

S: Max was Mandiberg.



Hunter Synagogue in Hunter, New York

J: So you think perhaps Max took the name Mandiberg after he married Minnie?

S: No, I have no reason to believe to that. Dora was Mandiberg. I don't know what that was all about. It's such a vague story that it's not worth putting anywhere. I just heard that the Max, Minnie relationship was not very healthy. Let's put it that way.

J: No one got a divorce in your family right, for generations?

S: Nobody got divorced. Right.

J: That seems to be a theme. [That unity is permanent. Many are buried together in Mount Hebron Cemetery in Flushing, Queens – Clara, Dora, Fruma, Minnie, Sadie and Samuel Mandiberg – from 1918 to 1987].

S: There had to be something weird going on in that family because Abe and Sam were both pretty messed up evidently.

J: What about Max's brother, Moishe or Morris?

S: Don't know anything about him.

J: Your knowledge was cut off.

S: Cutoff absolutely. Maybe Myrtle and Hortense knew more, but they were so angry at their father that they never talked about it. They were angry at the Mandibergs completely. They never liked to mention the Mandibergs at all.

J: You didn't know Jack and Helen, for instance, in Detroit?

S: No. I heard there were Detroit Mandibergs. Myrtle did some schooling in Detroit and she had made reference to the Detroit Mandibergs.

J: Where were you born?

S: Los Angeles, West L.A.



Lewis and Clark Faculty Picture
of Susan Mandiberg

J: Then brought up later in Highland Park, Illinois.

S: My last three years of high school.

J: What about Estelle?



Estelle and Norman Thiel

S: Estelle was my aunt. I don't know whether she was born in Hunter or New York City. She was raised in Hunter by the Gordons with my father. [Estelle Mandiberg Theil had an MSW from SUNY Albany]. She married Norman, who was also from Hunter. They moved to Los Angeles also after business after WWII. They had one son, Gordon. He still lives in Los Angeles.

J: What does he do?

S: He is retired. He was a librarian at UCLA. He was the head of the music library at UCLA for years. He actually married a classmate of mine from Highland Park, Jan Goldsmith.

J: Do you know who in earlier generation made it through college?

S: Myrtle had a Masters in psychology. [She funded a scholarship at Brooklyn College for child psychology through her will]. Clara graduated from a teachers college.

J: In New York.

S: I assume in New York.

J: You don't know about the two boys?

S: I have no idea. We had nothing to do with them. We would take these courtesy visits to Abe. [Abe eventually moved with Henrietta to Queens and, at the end, was put in Creedmoor State Hospital for Alzheimer's, the same hospital his grandson, James Mandiberg, helped deinstitutionalize in the 1970s].

J: What do you know?

S: Very little. I know he was involved with Gaiety Delicatessen [See Gaiety Delicatessen, A67-68]. I remember people talking about it. I think that Abe was also connected somehow with the Gaiety. [Per James Mandiberg, the Mandibergs were also original partners in the Stage Delicatessen, unfortunately cashing out early. Their other famous food connection was helping to feed Leon Trotsky in 1917 when he was an impoverished journalist in N.Y.C.].

J: The Mandibergs owned at various times probably two delicatessens in New York, one before the Gaiety and then one later in Patterson, New Jersey. Do you have any knowledge about the others?

S: The only one I remember hearing about was the Gaiety.

J: What did you hear?

S: Not much: that it was a delicatessen, that famous people came there.

J: Were you brought up with any Yiddish?



Music Librarian for U.C.L.A. Gordon Theil with Jerry Moss and Herb Alpert, receiving donation of A&M's record repository.

S: You know, they would sometimes use phrases in Yiddish when they didn't want us to understand something, but not a lot.

J: You would have had the TV and movie version of Yiddish.

S: At best.

J: You were raised Jewish?

S: Yes.

J: Now you're a famous law professor in Oregon.

S: Yeah right.

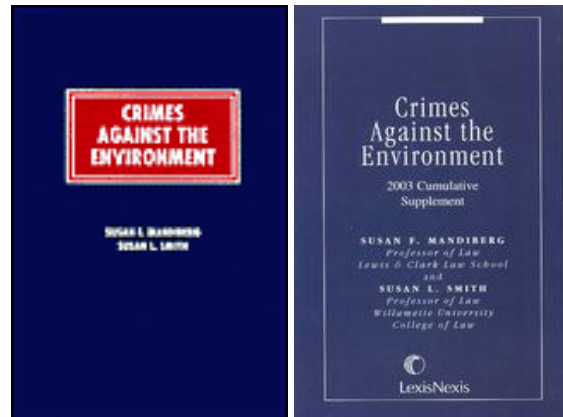
J: With books on environmental law.

S: Environmental criminal law, yes.

J: Environmental criminal law and toxic dumping.

S: Yes.

J: What does your husband, Richard, do?



Treatise and Supplement on Environmental Criminal Law by Susan Mandiberg



Jim Mandiberg, Susan Mandiberg, Richard Harris and Mariko Aratani

S: Richard is about to retire this week actually. He was a social work administrator. For 30 years, he was director of a big non-profit here in Portland that deals with homelessness and substance abuse. For the last couple years, he has been working for the State of Oregon helping to reorganize the addictions in mental health services.

J: What does your daughter Robin do?

S: She is finishing a Ph.D at Michigan State in educational psychology.

J: What about your stepson, Joel?

S: He works in retail.

J: Finally, your brother Jim?

S: He teaches at Columbia in the Department of Social Work. He is married to Mariko with a daughter Noe [Aratani-Mandiberg] Janus. [The choice of social work by Jim and initially by his father, Arnold, was once common in the family, including Clare Radov Levin, Lynn Radov and Barbara Radov.]



Columbia Faculty Picture
of James Mandiberg

J: What story have I missed?

S: My father was a bomber pilot in WWII.

J: Arnold?

S: Yes. His plane was shot down over occupied France and he spent time in a German prisoner of war camp.

J: Wow. Remind me what he did again before turning to a career as a bomber pilot.

S: He was a sales representative for a number of different men's clothing manufacturers.

J: In L.A. and then in Illinois.

S: Yes. He had been attending graduate school when the war came. He was in graduate school to become an M.S.W.

J: Where was he in school?



University of Chicago School
of Social Administration (SSA)

S: University of Chicago. He was also working in the juvenile courts. When the war broke out, he felt it was his duty to serve. He joined the Air Force and became a pilot. He was shot down over occupied France and was taken to a prisoner of war camp [Stalag Luft 1]. When he came back, he had no stomach for returning to school. He wanted to get married and have a real life. So he married my mother, whom he had known before, and they moved to California to start a business with my mother's father. My grandfather had owned clothing manufacturing businesses in New York that had been turned into war time manufacturing. When the war was over, he wanted to return to men's clothing and thought that California was the place of the future for fashion. So he and my father decided to start this men's clothing manufacturing business. For a variety of reasons, that business failed. After that, my dad became a manufacturers' representative for other companies.



Stalag Luft 1 Prisoner of War Camp – South Compound

J: Where did he go to college?

S: The University of Florida.

J: Where was he interned in Europe, in which camp?

S: I don't have that on the tip of my tongue. My brother has all of the WWII stuff. He might know where the camp is. It was in Eastern Europe, because his camp was liberated by the Russians. [There is a certain irony here. The family had spent years using its energy and its resources to escape Europe generally and Russia in particular, often to their peril. Then Arnold, like so many others in the family during World War II, returned to Europe. Arnold was forced to a prisoner camp in the East, only to be liberated by Russian soldiers, inheritors of a tradition of anti-Semitic pogroms that tortured a son of a Mandiberg (Peter Radov), and raped two Mandiberg granddaughters (Lena Carol and her sister), with one dying].

J: How did he disguise the fact that he was Jewish?



Pilot Arnold Mandiberg with plane and crew of Mandy's Dandys

S: When he came back, he never wanted to talk about his experience. [He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross]. Until the last years before his death, he almost never talked about the war. The story I remember was that the Germans issued an order through the command structure of the prisoners, to the top ranking American in the prison camp, to segregate the Jewish prisoners from the other prisoners. This American officer ordered all of the Americans in the camp to say they were Jewish. [In general, if the Germans thought the captured Allied soldier to be Jewish, before transporting him to the prison camp, he would be summarily executed. If identified later, he would be sent to a slave labor camp, with their universally high mortality rates].

J: Other than having a horrible time, though, he was not otherwise specially abused?

S: He would never talk about it. He kept a diary, there were letters that were sent out. They were edited, of course, but we have a ton of that stuff somewhere. [Arnold did write about the experience, including the encounter with Stalin's Army: "About 10 days went by during which time the Russians insisted that we give them a complete list of POWs by name, home address, etc. I happened to be Assistant Housing Officer and had this task as a part of my job. We completed the list, in English, and they said *Nyet*, demanding that the list be in Russian. We finished this job in two days. We were evacuated by air. We marched the fellows to the airfield, the troop carriers landed, cut one engine, loaded and took off, taking the men to Camp Lucky Strike in France."].



Arnold Mandiberg photo, as shot down B-26 Marauder pilot of 323rd BG, taken as German prisoner.

J: Did your mother work?



Perle and Arnold Mandiberg

S: My mother worked as a pre-school teacher.

J: I don't suppose you have an almost that interesting second story as having a father being a prisoner of war in Eastern Europe.

S: [Laughing]. Probably not.

J: Do you have a second story, even if it's not that story?

S: There's another part of the war story. They grew up in Hunter, New York which was in the Catskills. Evidently, before he flew to England, he deviated from the course and buzzed the main street of the town in Hunter with his plane. With his bomber. So when we were kids and we would go up to Hunter, total strangers would stop us on the street, "You're Arnold's kids. Well, I remember the day he buzzed the town." He was a local hero in Hunter for that. He and my mom both died in a car crash in San Francisco in 1995. They would both probably still be alive today if it had not been for that.



American Women's Voluntary Service

J: Didn't you tell me that your mother caught a spy during WWII?

S: Yes. She worked for the American Women's Voluntary Service as a driver. Sometimes she would drive ambulances and sometimes drive military officers. She had driven a general to some military installation. She was waiting in the car for him and she was unobtrusive. She saw somebody walking around taking out a camera and taking pictures. So she reported it. He turned out to be a German spy.

J: Where was this?

S: In New York State or New Jersey. Somewhere within driving distance of New York City.

J: What service was that?

S: It was called the American Women's Voluntary Service. It was women volunteering to do necessary jobs that men who were now at war had done.

J: Wow. You have a WWII heroism thing.

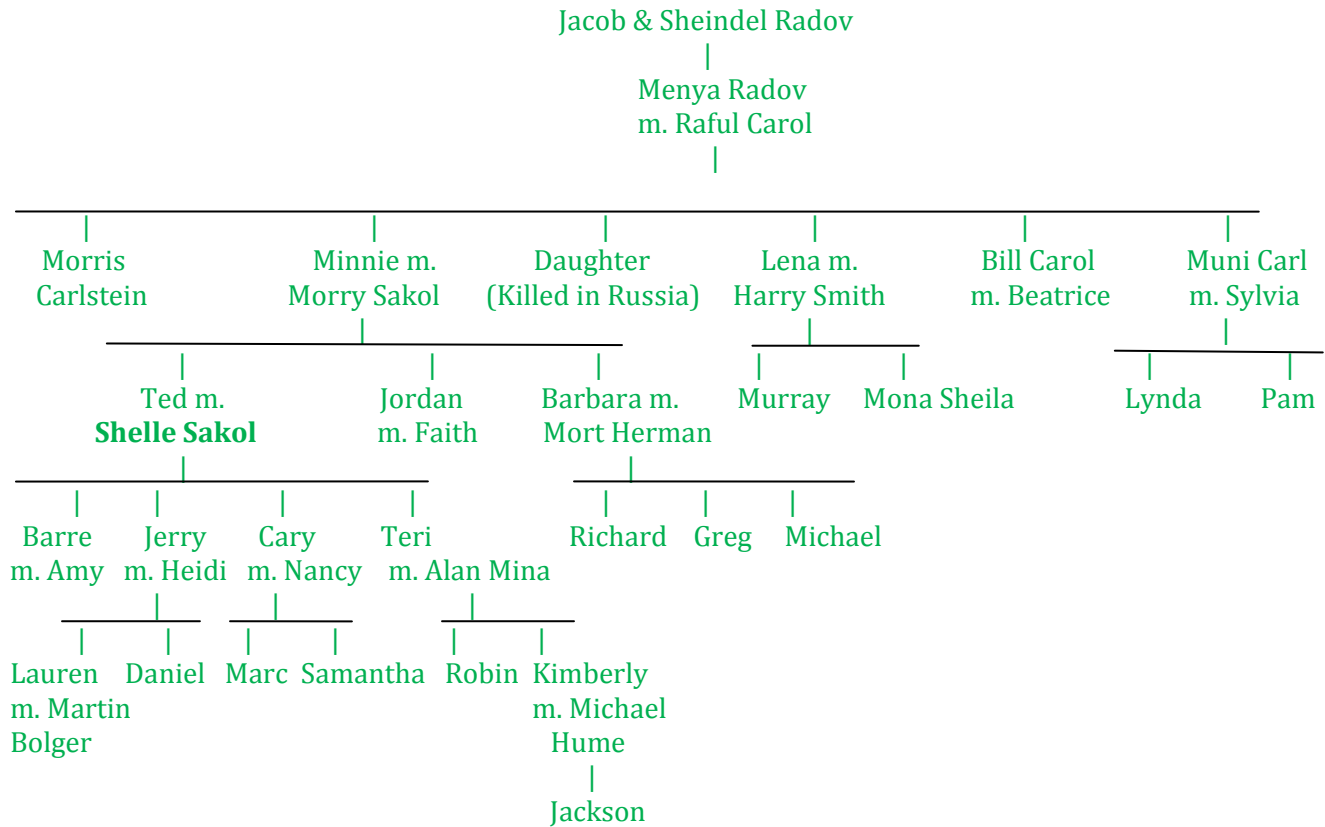
S: [Laughing]. I have to go.

J: Another time. I will send this to you so you can edit anything you want.

S: Sounds good. Bye.

J: Great. Bye.

SHELLE SAKOL RADIN



Shelle Sakol Radin; Conversation with Joel Levin – Monday, August 15, 2011

J: When did you and Ted [Theodore Sakol] get married?

S: June 27, 1948.

J: Ted passed away about 15 years ago.



Ted and Shelle Sakol



Menya, Lena [Minnie] holding Ted, and Sheindel

- S: January 5, 1996.
- J: Did you and Ted always live in Chicago?
- S: We always lived in the Chicago area, various suburbs.
- J: Did you know Ted's grandparents?

- S: I knew Menya Sakol, Morris's [Sakol] mother.
- J: I am looking on the other side. Did you know either of them on the other side?
- S: No.
- J: So Menya and Raful were gone by the time you married?
- S: Yes. I heard about them, but never met them. I heard he was a very strong person and she was a very nice person.
- J: By strong, that meant he was not always a gentle guy.
- S: Yes. That's how I would take it.
- J: What did you hear about Menya, other than she was nice?
- S: Minnie was very, very bright.
- J: Minnie or Menya?
- S: Oh, Menya, that I didn't hear. All I heard was that she was nice.
- J: Did you ever hear any stories from anyone about life in Russia?
- S: It so happens my parents were born there, too. I heard it was nice until the pogroms. My dad was educated there and he was in the seminary. He sent two of his children, my father and his sister, to America when everything was taken from my grandparents, who apparently were well off before the pogroms. My father worked two jobs to bring his whole family here. That's what I know about Russia. The education, I heard, was very good there. [See Humor, Cossacks & Pogroms, A63-66].



Shtetl Marketplace

J: I was looking also on Ted's side. Did you hear any stories on his side of the family about Russia from Minnie?

S: The only term they used to use was "they escaped." That is about as much as I knew about it.

J: Was Minnie's real name was Miriam?

S: Miriam. Yes.

J: What do you remember about Erie?

S: We stayed with your grandparents right after we were married, with Morris and Luba. We stayed at their home. We retained a great friendship with your mom and your aunt [Mitzi]. We weren't that close to your uncle.

J: Barney.

S: When there was a family thing, we tried to get together in Erie. Of course, with Lena and Bill Carl, we were extremely close to them.

J: What's your memory of Morris and Luba?

S: Charming. I was 17 when I married and shortly after we stayed at their home. Your grandmother was beautiful, she was elegant. They had a lovely home. She taught me things. I remember staying there and making the bed when I was leaving, and she explained to me that you don't make the bed because the linens have to be changed. [Laughing]. She was absolutely lovely.

J: What about Morris?

S: He was a strong man. I know Ted respected him a lot, very nice. They were both so gracious. It was a wonderful experience staying at their home.

J: You were only 17 when you married?

S: Yes. Ted was just a couple months shy of 21.

J: Let me go back. Ted's parents were Minnie and Morry. Minnie was born in Russia, but she never spoke of it.

S: No, never.

J: Do you know what year Minnie was born?

S: Yes. She was born October 1, 1900. Jordan thinks its 1899, but I have her marriage certificate and it says 1900. Her gravestone reads 1899 but, according to her, she was born in 1900.

J: When did she come to the U.S.?

S: You know, I used to know. I want to say 10 or 12 years old [likely 9 or 10].

J: Some of the family came over in 1908. I think that is when she came over. Everyone came over in 1908, 1911 or 1922. (Gus Radov told all it was 1907, not 1908).



Minnie and Morry Sakol



Erie Union Station

S: She was already here in 1922, that I know. [In fact, Bertha's mother, Ida or Chana Chaya, told her of arriving in Erie, at Union Station, in 1911 and being met by Minnie, who was already here (having come, perhaps, with her father Raful, but not her mother or sister Lena). Minnie greeted Ida effusively in English. When Ida in Yiddish asked why she spoke in an unknown language, Minnie, only several years in America, said, in a blasé way, in Yiddish, that she had largely forgotten the old language and felt comfortable only in English. That desire to pass for American, typical, remained amusing to Chana Chaya. The exact facts depend on the mystery of Raful, who may well have returned to Russia. The 1920 Census shows him immigrating in 1913, 40 years old as Rafel Carol, with the 1930 Census showing him 52 and Raful Carol].

J: When she came, do you know where she lived?

S: I'm pretty sure Ted was born in Erie. She talked about living in Erie.

J: Did she ever say where she was from?



1900 Kiev

S: She did, but I can't remember. It was near Kiev.

J: OK. Tell me what was life like after she and Morry got married? I know this is before you married into the family, but she must have told you. They had a shoe store at some point.

S: Yes. They had a shoe store when I married Ted.

J: Where was it in Chicago?

S: 1507 Milwaukee. I even remember the phone number. It was near Ashland. Shortly, Ted went into business right across the street from them, at 1480 Milwaukee.

J: Is that when he started the photography business?

S: He started it when our third son [Cary] was six months old.

J: Did Ted go to college?

S: No. He went into the navy. He was in Pacific. That was before I knew him.

J: Do you know what Minnie and Morry did before they were in the shoe store business?

S: She worked at a shoe store I know. I can't remember what he did.

J: I heard that in the early years Minnie and Morry had a really tough time with the shoe store, that times were tough particularly during the Depression.

S: When you talk to Jordan, he'll know what his father did. He's in Montreal. He just recently remarried and his wife is a citizen of Montreal, so they have to spend some time there.

J: Good to know. I like Montreal. I'll go visit them. They'll be happy to see me. But you heard that they had a tough time with the shoe store.

S: Yes. They had a very, very tough time.

J: Minnie's siblings were Lena, Bill and Muni, right?

S: Right.



Minnie, Lena, Muni and Bill



Russian Pogrom

J: Did you know that Lena was a victim of a pogrom?

S: No, and I was extremely close to Lena. Never was that ever discussed. Lena would spend at least a week with us every year and so did Bill.

J: Let me go through Minnie's siblings. Let's do Muni first. Did you see Muni as much?

S: No. We saw Muni twice. The first time I met him was at my oldest son's Bat Mitzvah [Barre].

J: What was Muni like?

S: Intelligent, soft-spoken and kind. When we first met him, he was selling mutual funds. Those were the first mutual funds we ever bought.

J: What was his wife like?

S: She [Sylvia] was a little bit more aggressive, but very nice, very kind. He was very soft and she was not quite as soft, but extremely nice.

J: Now you say you saw Lena a lot. Was that Lena and Harry or just Lena?

S: We saw Harry when we visited California, but Lena came to visit alone. Ted's sister [Barbara or Cookie] was very, very sick for four years and she went to visit her all the time and Lena stayed at our house.

J: That was Cookie. I thought Cookie was sick while she was in Detroit.

S: She was, but Ted would drive with his mother and his aunt to Detroit.



Barbara (Cookie) Herman

J: I remember my mother and Mitzi driving to Detroit to see Cookie.

S: She died when she was 31. She died in 1961, on her son's fourth birthday. Lena came several times a year during those four years to visit Cookie.

J: What was Lena like?

S: Lena was a character. [Laughing]. She was a very very strong lady. She was an outstanding cook. Her home was a public home for troubled women. She took care of troubled women. She was in all kinds of organizations. She would have huge dinners at her house, half the people you didn't know. We met Harry, a quiet man, who stayed in the bedroom most of the time. He came out at dinner time. He was a painter, a house painter.

J: She helped troubled women, like a halfway house?

S: Mostly they all had psychological problems. They either had a nervous breakdown or they tried to hurt themselves. When we go to visit, she would have three or four women who sat around and they would help her with the dishes. It was kind of strange. She was very active in organizations.

J: I knew her. She had a very good sense of humor.

S: She was unbelievable. When my mother-in-law, Minnie, took ill, I had to take to her to the Mayo Clinic, because we were looking for help. She went with me. We stayed together and she would lift up your spirits. Even though it was her sister and she was so close, she helped make it tolerable for me. She believed in the half-full cup.



Murray Smith

J: Were you friendly with her children, Murray and Mona Sheila?

S: Yes, extremely friendly with Murray. I was heartbroken when he died.

J: Did he have children?

S: If I recall, he had a little boy. I didn't know what happened to him.

J: What about Mona Sheila?

S: She married an Israeli man [Mike Bergida]. Her daughter died when she was a teenager. She [Mona Sheila] really wasn't one of our favorite people. She did some not nice things. Not to us, but I think to her mother.

J: Like what?



Mona Sheila Bergida

S: I think her mother lost her health because of her.

J: What about Bill? Bill was quite a character.

S: The biggest character I ever met. A Damon Runyon character. He was very, very bright. He was extremely loud. He was the best joke teller that I ever remembered. If you let him, he would tell jokes continuously for hours and hours. He had a beautiful singing voice and, in his later years, he entertained by telling jokes and singing at senior centers. He had a million girlfriends always. He was loud. We had parties for him. He was separated from his children and his wife. I think they were divorced. I really don't know. He stayed at our house every year and a lot of different women stayed with him. My kids used lament how come Uncle Bill can bring a girl into his room single and we can't.

J: There was some talk in the family that Bill never really made a living.

S: Well, there was talk. He never had a job that I know of, but he did go to the race track and bet horses. He always had money in his pocket. He used to go to the track. He said that's how he said he made his living. If it's true or not, I don't know.

J: What else do you remember from Erie, other than staying with my grandparents? You were friendly with my mother and Mitzi.

S: Yes. We were friendly with the people who owned the fish store.

J: The Tivas'. They're related to Joe Radov's wife, Cirka.

S: I know we visited them and there was somebody named Vivian. I think Ted may have dated her. He had a picture in his wallet, I know, when we were dating.

J: Do you remember Joe and Cirka?

S: No. If I remember, we went to Erie just a couple of times. I know we were really friendly with your folks and with Mitzi and Gene. We kept in touch. I think that they came here for affairs, but that was a long time ago.

J: So you have four children. What is Barre doing?

S: He's a lawyer in Boulder, Colorado. He was married till he was 55 years old, the first time. He's 61 and he's married to Amy. My second son, Gerald or Jerry, was born in 1953, but he's adopted and he did not come into our life until September 27, 1955. His birthday is November 5, 1953. [See Jews, Adoption & Radovs, A121-122].

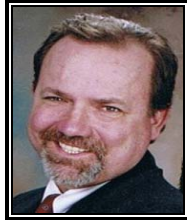


Barre Sakol

J: Is he married?



Teri Sakol Mina



Jerry Sakol



Cary Sakol

S: He's married to Heidi and they have two children, Lauren and Daniel. Lauren just recently married. She's married to Martin Bolger. Third is Cary. He sells home improvements, and lives in Gurnee, Illinois. He is married to Nancy. They have two children, Marc and Samantha.

J: And your daughter, Teri?



Marc and Samantha Sakol - 1996

S: She lives in Powell, Ohio, a suburb of Columbus. She's Director of Marketing for Cardinal Pharmaceutical. She's married to Alan Mina and has two daughters. Kimberly is married to Michael Hume. Her other daughter, Robin, is a school teacher. She isn't married.

J: Where do Kim and Robin live?

S: Robin lives in Downers Grove, Illinois. Kim lives in downtown Chicago.

J: What about Cookie's [Barbara] family?

S: She was married to Mort Herman. They had three children.

J: What happened to them?



Mort Herman

S: Mort remarried. We're very close to them. He remarried a gal named Arlene a year after Cookie died. He is still married. He lives in Boynton Beach, Florida. She had lost her husband. She had two sons. So together, they have five sons.



Richard Herman



Gregg Herman

J: What are the names of the three boys?

S: Richard is the oldest. Then Greg and then Michael. Michael is mentally challenged. Richard is a lawyer in Detroit. He is married to Debbie. They have Jackie and Brandon. A girl and a boy.

J: Then Greg is?

S: Greg is married to Kathy and he's a lawyer, also in Detroit. He rents space in a building that Richard owns. He has Daniel, Jeffrey and Emily.



J: What city does live Michael in?

S: He lives in Detroit at the JARC. It's in Farmington Hills.

J: You remarried how many years ago?

S: 11.

J: What did your husband do before he retired?

S: He was a writer. Not an author writer. He wrote ad copy.

J: You said you have some of Minnie's things.

S: Shortly before she died she would say to me “I want to be sure that you had this, it was my mother’s.” Or something. I would get a rolling pin, I would get a dish, I would get a tray that she wanted to be sure that I had.

J: These were important things to her?

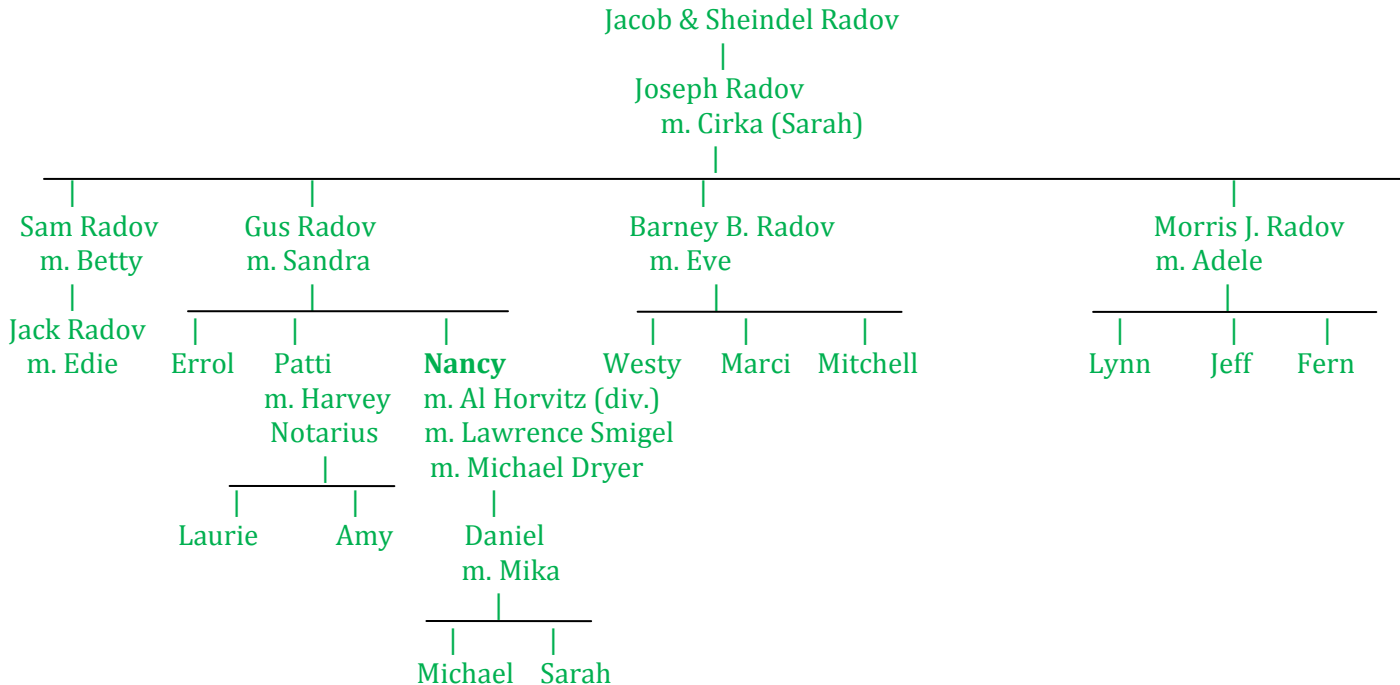
S: Yes. Funny, they have become valuable to me. Her rolling pin will go to my daughter as part of her inheritance. It was valuable then and it’s valuable now.



J: They all baked. All the generations.

S: She was a very good cook, very good baker.

NANCY RADOV DRYER



Nancy Radov Dryer; Conversation with Joel Levin – August 19, 2011

J: Nancy, we ran into each other at Adele's [Radov] stone setting. It was great to see you. Your parents were Gus and Sandra and your sister was Patti, right?



Adele and Morris J. Radov



Sandra Radov

N: Yes. Her name was not Sandra. It was Ida Sarah but, because grandma was Sarah, dad's mother, they nicknamed her Sandra. Sandra stayed. In Erie, they knew her as Sandra. Down south, they knew her as Ida.

J: I heard that if anyone called her Sarah in front of your grandmother, your grandmother would get upset.

N: Right. That's why she was changed to Sandra. [Gus had previously brought home another woman, also a Sarah, also not tolerated by Cirka for the name. He stayed with the second Sarah, at the cost of the name].

J: That's the same story I heard from others. You lost a brother.

N: Yes. Errol Edwin, at nine months. We never knew him. It was in 1941.

J: Let me go back. Your grandparents were Joe and Cirka.

N: Yes.

J: Did you call her Cirka or did you call her Sarah?



Joe and Cirka Radov

N: Grandma Sarah.

J: Did you ever hear any stories about life in Russia or the passage over here?

N: I heard that my grandfather paid a lot of guards to get a lot of people out, not just in Russia, but as they went through. He paid the way. [See Bucharest and its Consul, A93-98].



Emblem of the White Russians

J: Your father was born in Russia?

N: Right, along with Sam.

J: Do you know what town he was born in?

N: I always thought it was Kiev. Near Kiev, White Russia as they called it in those days.

J: What do you remember about your grandparents?

N: Grandma's poppy seed cookies and her burnt chocolate cakes. [Laughing.] There were always new people at the table, there was always something to eat around the house. She was always baking or cooking. I remember also, after grandpa died, she would have a doctor's appointment and sometimes I would accompany her. We would go together.

J: What do you remember about your grandfather?

N: This sounds crazy. I remember I sold Girl Scout cookies and I went to the back of the [Jewish] Center [*Brith Sholom*], where they would wash dishes, and the other

part of the Jewish Center wasn't there at the time, just the original *shul* he had helped found [with Morris]. All these guys were playing cards. My grandfather insisted that everybody buy a box of cookies so his granddaughter would be the high seller.

J: Do you remember the family card playing?

N: No, I just remember him doing that at the back of the Synagogue [actually, the adjoining hall]. I mean, I guess they did it, but I don't remember. I do remember going to Cambridge Springs and having family picnics.

J: As we were talking before, your father and mine [Mace Levin] were both accountants, I think the only accountants in the family for a long time (actually, in Erie, as both Barney Bass and Jack Bass Thompson should be added, and later Westy Radov).



Gus Radov and Mace Levin

N: Most of the people went into the scrap business. He decided to go into accounting. I don't know how he was trained. I know he was in college.

J: Where did he go to college?



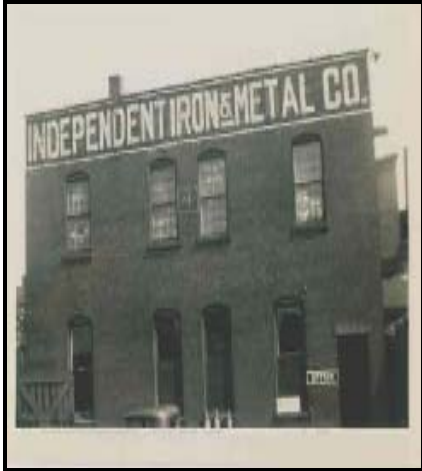
Academy High School, Erie

N: That I don't remember. I know he graduated from the Academy [High School] in the first class that graduated in 1924.

J: What year was he born?

N: 1907. I graduated in 1964. He graduated in 1924. We both had our class reunions in 1969. That was his last class reunion. He never made another one unfortunately.

J: What do you remember about your father growing up and about the Radov family generally?



Independent Iron & Metal Co.

N: I remember my father was always working, including weekends. Occasionally, we went on a vacation, but he was always calling his office to make sure everything was okay. We would stop at Independent [Iron and Metal, 235 E. 23rd, Erie, the workplace of Joe, M.P., Barney B., Barney R., and for a number of years, Morris J. Radov, as well Gene Kerness], and he would talk to his brothers, because the women were not close. During the holidays, we would have Pesach and grandpa would run the service.

J: Your grandfather would run the *Seder*. Which house was that?

N: The house on 37th Street. I don't think I remember anything on 21st Street. We would play in the backyard while the other people – grandma, grandpa and the adults – would be sitting there on the porch on their old rusty chairs. My dad was close to Barney and to Morris. Sam was always banned, basically the black sheep. They helped him a lot. My dad did a lot of things for a lot of people.

J: You think your father wasn't as close with your grandfather as the other two sons?

N: I think he was close, but he was always working, so we didn't have a lot of quality time with his family.

J: Right. The others were in the scrap business as well.

N: Right.



Nancy Dryer Radov

J: What do you remember about the other great aunts and uncles you had in town, Morris and Luba, Ida and Harold and Aunt Esther?



Ida Halperin - 1963

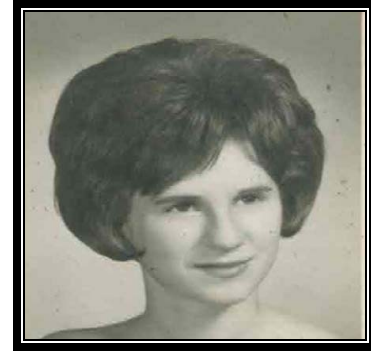
N: Aunt Esther I don't remember much. I remember Aunt Ida and then she moved Meadville. So we didn't see her much. She was a very kind, wonderful person. Unfortunately, she had diabetes and Harold was not a really good man. He was a tyrant.

J: Other than being very nice and very kind, what else do you remember about her?

N: She would take the shirt off her back, if she had to, and give it to you. She was just a really super person.

J: Your sister Patti was named for Uncle Peter [Pasey].

N: Right. That's what I heard. I think Esther stayed and helped grandma [Cirka] cook and she lived with them I believe. She stayed there and helped, and they helped her.



Patti Radov

J: What about Luba and Morris?

N: They were great. Aunt Luba was great. Your grandmother was really great to me. I remember staying overnight there sometimes and I had a good time.

J: Was that on 37th Street, next door to your grandparents?

N: No, on Grandview. I remember her beautiful black furniture, gorgeous oriental furniture.

J: What do you remember about your Uncle Morris?

N: He was very kind to me. A very nice person.

J: Do you remember Cherna and Lena?

N: Sure. I thought they were sisters. They would come to visit us at our house or we would go, I think they stayed with grandma and grandpa.

J: Who else would you see besides Cherna and Lena? Do you remember any others?

N: Bill [Carol]. He would pop in periodically. He was kind of a BS'er. He could tell these stories and everybody believed everything he said.

J: But he did have a certain charm.

N: Yes. Everybody believed him. He was that kind of person.

J: Who else do you remember?

N: In 1964, our family went to California. I mean dad, mom and Patti. I graduated high school. Patti graduated with her Master's degree and my parents would have their 25th wedding anniversary in November. So we took the train from Erie all the way

to California, a dome car. We were in California about 16 or 17 days and we went to see a lot of family. We saw Jackie [Radov] in San Diego. He took us to Tijuana for the evening.



Jack Radov with Patti and Nancy Radov

J: What's your memory of your cousin Jackie?

N: He was my hero. He was absolutely my hero. He came in once, and I think it was confirmation time, *Shavuot*, and I was waiting outside until he came and he said "You got to pick me up. I told my girlfriends you would pick me up." He didn't want to do it, but he did it. He was a good guy, unlike his father [Sam Radov]. He was more settled. His father, when we were in California, would say "he knows this one and I know this one." I think Sam never really found himself. I think Sam was more of a dreamer.

J: But Jackie, you say, was your hero. He was a big strapping guy.

N: Right. He was 6'4". Here's his little cousin who comes up to his thighs at that point. He was my hero. Jackie was my hero. I'm going to divert a second to my son. My son was in San Diego, where Jackie was, because he was sent through the Navy for some classes and he ended up in San Diego. Jackie had him over. I asked him to see my son, which he did do. Edie was really nice, his wife. I remember Edie. Very nice people, they really, really were. Like I said, his father was more of a dreamer and Jackie, I think was more realistic than his father. I remember Betty, his wife, because Betty, I was outside of New York for a few days and then I went to New York and she and her second husband let me stay with them a couple days and then I took the train back to Erie.

J: What do you remember about Betty?

N: A good cook, a nice person. Her [second] husband, Rob, was a real tease. He had a lot of life, fun type of person. You would get a birthday card and it would say, Uncle Betty and Aunt Rob. He would reverse it. They always remembered your birthday.

J: You were married three times. First time ended in divorce.

N: Al Horvitz. We had no children. The second marriage was to Lawrence Smigel, Daniel's father. Lawrence died.

J: Your third husband?

N: Michael Dryer. He also passed away, 6½ years ago.

J: Your son, Daniel, is in the Navy. He's in computers?

N: He's in computers, as far as I know. I don't know what he does, actually. He won't tell me.



Sarah and Daniel Smigel

J: Does he have children?

N: His wife is Mika. His son is Michael Ray and he will be 6. He was born on August 26, 2005. His daughter, Sarah Nene Smigel, was born on June 12, 2007. She was just 4.

J: Could you fill me in on your sister's family? Patti died tragically.



Michael Smigel - 2010

N: Seven years on December 13. She was married to Harvey Notarius.

J: What did Patti do for a living?

N: Patti did many things. She got her Master's degree, but she decided that when she was a teacher, she didn't want to stay with it.

J: Where did she get her degree?



Nancy, Gus, and Patti Radov - 1959

N: University of Pittsburgh in 4 years. She got her Master's within 4 years. She was 21 when she graduated. Very bright girl.



Chanukah Menorah for Young Children

J: They had two children, Laurie and Amy.

N: Amy is the oldest. She was born in December 5, 1968, Chanukah that year. A Chanukah baby. Laurie was born in November 8, 1972.

J: Where do they live?

N: Laurie stayed in Pittsburgh with her father and Amy lives in a small little town as a librarian. Laurie graduated from Lehigh University as an engineer.

J: Harvey was a dentist, right?

N: He was actually a research chemist. When his company closed, he went back to school and became a dentist. He retired.

J: So that brings me up to the present on your family, Patti's family and what you remember about your parents.



Harvey and Patti Radov Notarius -1967

N: I remember my dad always working, but he played pinochle on Monday nights.

J: I remember your parents when I used to come over the house. As soon as we walked in, your mother dashed for the kitchen and then started bringing out food, right and left.

N: [Laughed]. Really, OK.

J: What else do you remember?



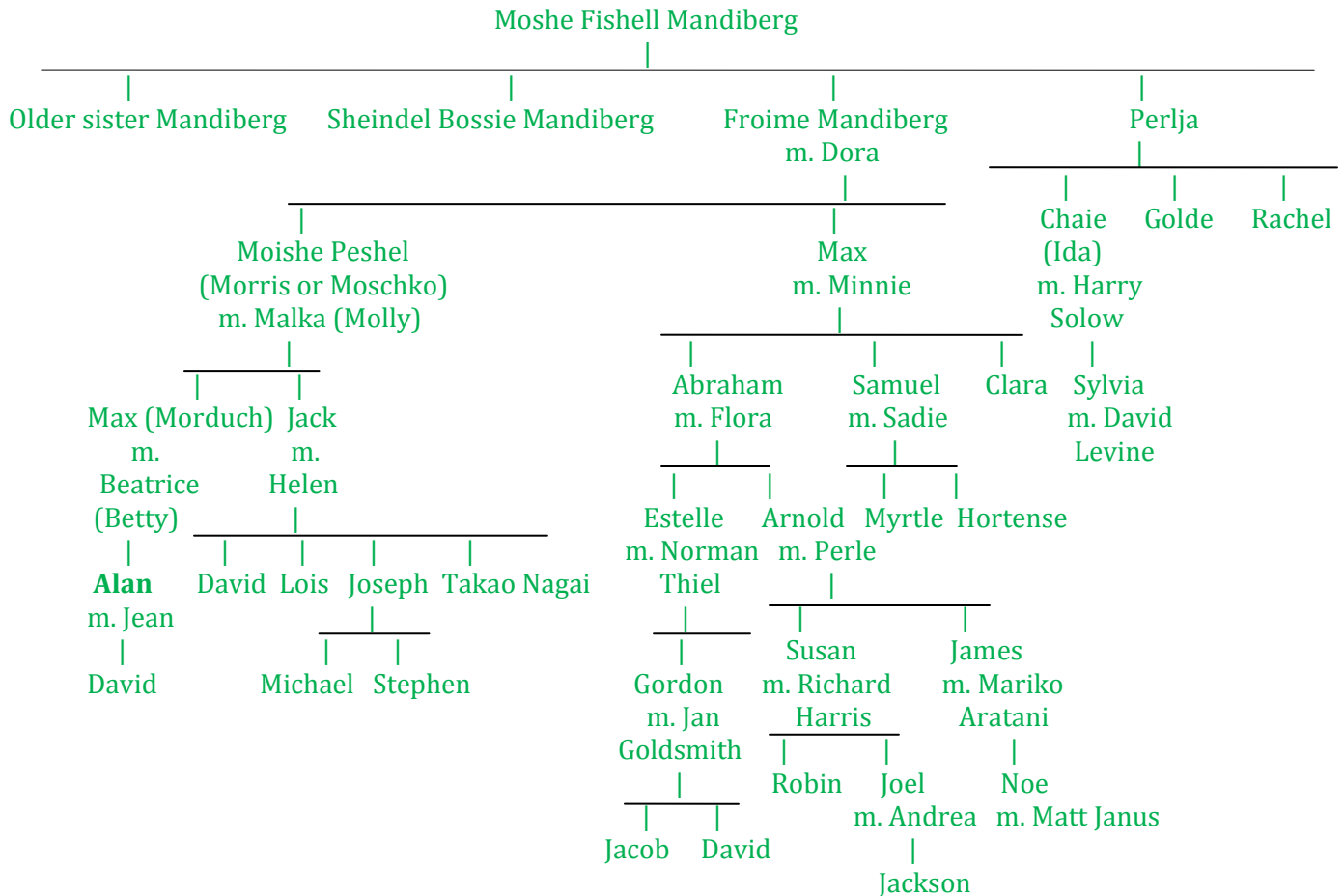
Jeff, Lynn and Fern Radov

N: I'm still close to Lynn. She and Jeff and Fern are wonderful people.

J: Your parents were wonderful.

N: Yes, they were. My father got the Golden Heart Award from the Jewish Center, and they gave my mother the Woman of Valor Award.

ALAN MANDIBERG



Alan Mandiberg. Conversation with Joel Levin – Wednesday, November 2, 2011

J: Alan, how old are you?

A: 78.

J: Your father was Max. Also, he's listed on the immigration records and ship manifest as Morduch. Did you ever hear that name?

A: You know it is very possible, although my grandmother never called him any other name but Max. It could be.

J: Your grandmother was Malka?

A: Right. I called her Molly.

J: Morris or Moishe married Malka or Molly and had two children. Your father and Jack, right?

A: Right. My father was born in Russia, but came here very young.

J: Your mother was Beatrice?

A: Betty.

J: I think I have missed on every name here. Sorry. You are married to Jean?

A: Correct.

J: I got one of the family right. Thank you. You and the family ran a delicatessen business in Patterson, is that right?

A: Correct. [For further information, see The Mandibergs, A69-70].

J: Can you describe the business?



Successor in Patterson
to Mandiberg Liquor

A: It was on Gram Ave., in Patterson, New Jersey. The first one was in the middle of the block, 226 Gram Ave. We stayed there all through the war. Then we bought the building on the corner, at the end of the war, and three or four years later they ripped the building apart and we put a fancy deli in there at 230 Rosa Parks. Deli-wise that went to the early 60s and that was the end of it.

J: Then you switched businesses?

A: We had that for a while, but it wasn't the same. The train wasn't coming in and they [the customers] were scared. The deli was there for quite a while into the 60s and it only had liquor. Not a bar, but packaged liquor.

J: So it had become a liquor store.

A: It became a liquor store in the late 60s, early 70s. It became a straight liquor store.

J: How long did you keep that?

A: I sold it in 1995. It's still there.

J: At one time, the family had the Gaiety Deli in New York. [This was likely the second of the three delis. The first would have been the Manhattan Café & Restaurant, at 90

Manhattan Ave. in Brooklyn (now Don Pedro's). The owners were listed as Cohen and Mandiberg. See The Gaiety Delicatessen, A67-68].

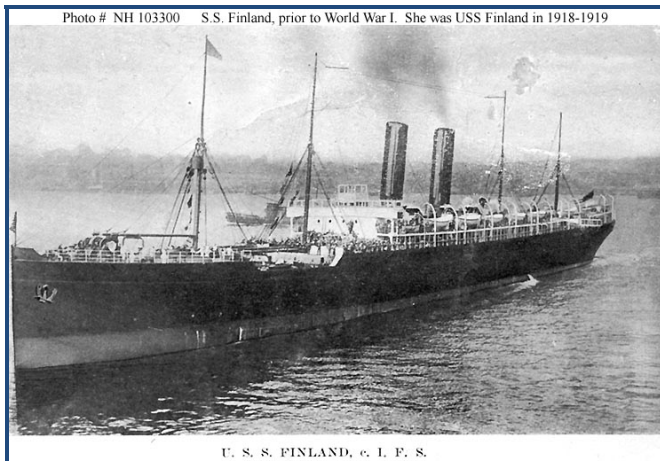
A: I have heard that. I wish we had kept it.

J: There was other family members you lost track of a long time ago. They were in Brooklyn, including Harry, your great-uncle.

A: Yes. Besides my Uncle Harry, there were others in Brooklyn and, of course, Jack and his children in Detroit.

J: Do you have children?

A: One son, David.



S.S. Finland

J: You never really heard stories before the time of your grandparents, for example, the two Mandiberg arrivals in 1911 on the *S.S. Finland* and the *Kursk*? [See Family Ship Manifest, A7-20].

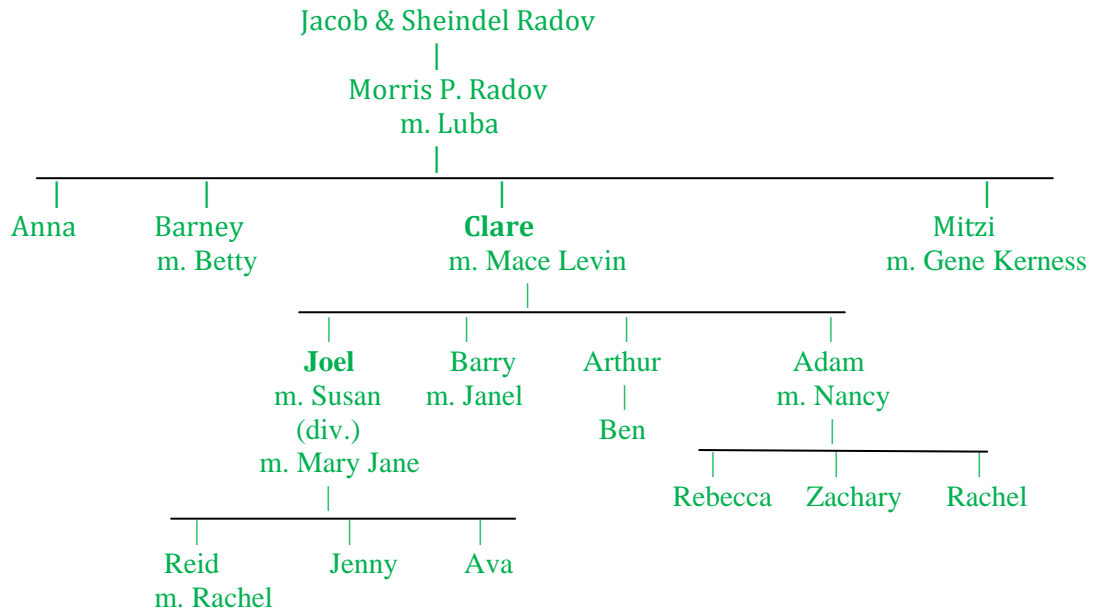
A: No. Nothing.

J: I'm going to send the family history to everybody. Do you have a email address.

A: No, I don't have any of that. I'm computer illiterate.

J: I'll send it to your home address then. I will mail it to you when it's done. Thanks.

CLARE RADOV LEVIN



Clare Radov Levin; Conversation with Joel Levin – August 11, 2011

J: I need a family chronology, not backwards, but forwards. You had four children, one better than the next.

C: Yes.

J: You were married to Mace [Levin, 1919-2008], with four kids.

C: Joel, Barry, Artie, Adam.

J: You have 7 grandchildren. Let's start with my kids.



Barney R. Radov, Adam, Barry, Joel, George, Artie and Mace Levin - 1995

C: Reid [b. 1984], Jenny [b. 1987] and Ava [b. 1998], and you're married to Mary Jane [Becker]. Adam is married to Nancy [Goldstein] and he has Rebecca, Zachary and Rachel.

J: Artie's son is Benjamin McGary.

C: Yes.

J: OK. Now, that was easy. I need you to do extra work, because you're my mother.

C: [Laughing].



Back: Adam Levin, Gil Cranberg, Blair Levin
Middle: Joel and Mary Jane Levin, Mitzi Kerness, Anne May, Clare
Jenny, Elaine, Ava, Rachel, Zack and Nancy Levin (9/24/11)

J: Mitzi was married to Gene [Kerness] and they had 4 children as well.



Anne, Suzie, Betsy and Barry Kerness - 1964

C: Everybody has 4 children.

J: OK. Mitzi's kids.

C: Anne, Suzie, Betsy, and Barry.

J: Anne and Jeff have Michael and Alissa.

C: Right.

J: Suzie and Bill Landau had two girls.

C: Merissa and Lindsay.

J: Betsy is married to Bill [Trabold], with no children, and Barry is married to Shloe, with two girls.

C: Lauren and Emily.

J: OK. You're doing so well, I'm giving you 2 more families – how's that?

C: I'm so grateful.

J: Barney and Betty have 4 children.

C: Lesley, Stephanie, Barbara and Jay.

J: Lesley was married to Robert [Murray].



C: They had Josh [Murray, b. 1984].

Josh Murray, Lesley Radov, Paul Hirschfield, Stephanie, Betty, Barney R. and Barbara Radov and Elaine Meizlish

J: Stephanie is married to Paul [Hirschfield]. They have no children, and Barb has a mate.

C: A significant other. Her name is Elaine [Meizlish].

J: Jay?

C: He is married to Lisa and they have 4 children. Michael, Diane, Daniel and Susan.

J: OK, because I failed to ask her, Bertha and Jack had 2 sons, right?

C: Right. Paul Wesley and Jimmy. Paul married Eileen [Falk] and Jimmy was married to Lesley [Auerback]. I think he is twice divorced, with no children. Paul adopted, I think.

J: You did such a good job. I wanted to ask you two more things. How is it that you knew that Bernie was your cousin when you went to the University of Oklahoma?

C: I don't know how I knew, but I knew.

J: Did you see him at college?

C: Yes, we were friendly.

J: What did you do? What is friendly in the 1940s?



University of Oklahoma



Mace and Clare Levin - 1960

C: We talked, went to the same parties, and then he and his wife came to visit us, dad [Mace] and myself. We had a party for them.

J: The one person not much described is Ida.

C: Tanta Chaika.

J: What do you remember about Tanta Chaika?

C: She was always nice to me.

J: That's what you said about everybody.

C: [Laughing]. Everybody was nice to me.

J: But tell me what you remember.

C: I remember we would visit them in Franklin, Pennsylvania.

J: But what happened when you would visit them?

C: What do you think? We would eat!

J: What about her husband, Harold? Do you have any memories of him?

C: I have the feeling he wasn't a nice man, and that he was kind of mean.

J: Not nice to *Tanta* Chaika?

C: Yes.

J: OK.

C: And they had 3 children.

J: Right. Barney, Bertha, Jack, who died.

C: Yankel.

J: Yankel? And he died when he was in his 30s?



Barney Halperin, Bertha Blau, and Jack Halperin

C: I don't know. He died fairly young.

J: OK. You've been terrifically helpful. I can't tell you.

C: [Laughing].

J: So, in terms of that picture of Joe peddling, do you remember your father peddling?



Isaac Baker Clothing Store

C: No.

J: Do you remember him selling Christmas trees?

C: Oh, he told me that he did. I asked him, why he always bought his clothes at Bakers, and he said, because Mr. Baker let him sell Christmas trees at the corner of his store. [Isaac Baker and Sons Clothes].

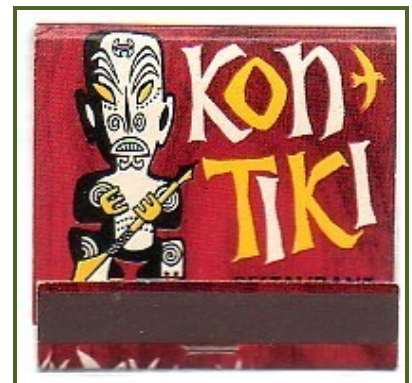
J: So that's what he did when he first came over, he sold Christmas trees?

C: I don't know when he did it but, he felt that loyalty.

J: Besides selling Christmas trees, do you know what else he sold when he first came here?

C: No, I don't.

J: [My own memories of my grandfather, Morris, include his taking me to Cleveland Indians games, one of the Jewish Center (Brith Sholom) outings common in the 1950s. In the mornings, wives deposited husbands, children and grandchildren at the Erie Union Station; we had our own passenger car, which divided into various poker and pinochle games for the adults, 500 and Go Fish for the kids. The air quickly filled with cigars and whiskey, stories and laughter, talk of sports and family and business, and the voices of more than a few Radovs. Two hours later, we arrived in Cleveland, walked to old Municipal Stadium, snacked through the game, then went to dinner at the very exotic Kon-Tiki (Polynesian) Restaurant, for food unknown in Erie. Then back – more cards, whiskey and cigars, stories and tales – to be collected by wives grateful to be spared a day of baseball. Above the talk in mingled English and Yiddish, and the cards and cigards, Morris,



Kon-Tiki Match Box, Essential For The Train Ride Home

surprisingly well-versed in the minutiae of baseball strategy and lore, was always attentive of me. All this represents the best of the Russian community reborn here. At no point was a smile missing from the face of Morris or his grandson].

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

No. 2746670

TO BE GIVEN TO THE PERSON NATURALIZED

CERTIFICATE OF NATURALIZATION

Petition Volume 37 Number 3774

Description of holder: Age 32 years, height 5 feet 6 inches, color white, complexion dark, color of eyes blue, color of hair dark brown, visible distinguishing marks, none

Name, age, and place of residence of wife

(NOTE: AFTER SEPTEMBER 22, 1922, HUSBAND'S NATURALIZATION DOES NOT MAKE WIFE A CITIZEN.)

Names, ages, and places of residence of minor children: Anna age 5 yrs., Barney age 4 yrs., 142 East 21st St., Erie, Penna.

State of Pennsylvania, County of Erie

Be it remembered, that Morris P. Radov, then residing at number 142 East 21st, City of Erie, State of Pennsylvania, who previous to his naturalization was a citizen of Russia, having applied to be admitted a citizen of the United States of America pursuant to law, and at a regular term of the Common Pleas Court of Erie County, Penna., held at Erie, Penna., on the 24th day of Feb'y., in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and 28, the court having found that the petitioner intends to reside permanently in the United States and that he had in all respects complied with the Naturalization Laws of the United States, and that he was entitled to be so admitted, it was thereupon ordered by the said court that he be admitted as a citizen of the United States of America.

(SEAL)

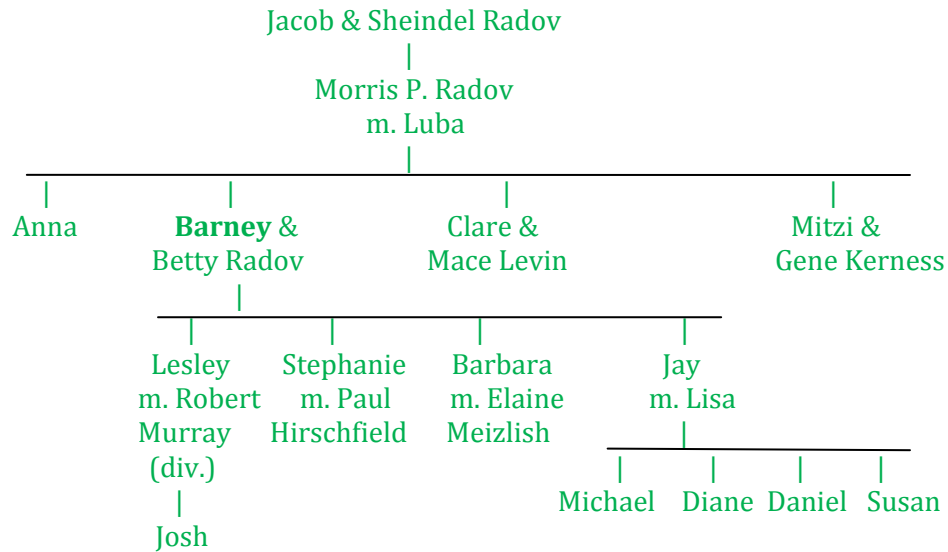
In testimony whereof, the seal of said court is hereunto affixed on the 24th day of February, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and 28, and of our Independence the one hundred and eighty-ninth.

James J. [Signature]
Clerk of Common Pleas Court.
(Official character of notary)

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Morris P. Radov Naturalization on February 24, 1928.

BARNEY R. RADOV



Barney R. Radov; Conversation with Joel Levin – Tuesday, September 6, 2011



Sheindel Radov

J: We were talking at the wedding of Alissa [May, now Schonfeld, daughter of Anne Kerness May, granddaughter of Mitzi Radov Kerness] about Sheindel. Did you say that your grandmother, Sheindel, always wore a wig?

B: Yes. As far as I know, always. I never saw her without it.

J: That was for a dozen years or as long as you can remember.

B: I remember it quite well. [The practice was called *tznius*, indicating modesty or humility. Following this, observant married women would typically, but not always, wear their hair very short or shaven, and cover it with a wig, or *sheitel*. See Familiarity, Theology & the World, A108-111].

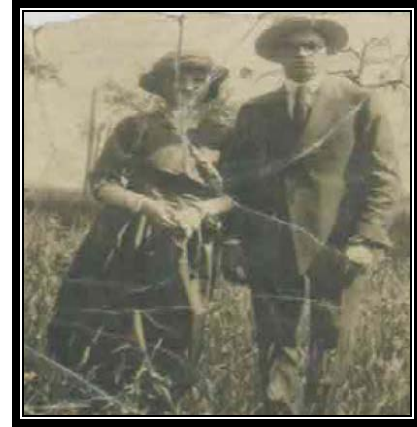
J: Was that true for anybody else?

B: Not that I know of.

J: Did she wear the wig for religious purposes?

B: I have no idea why she wore it, unless it was just a tradition and in Russia.

- J: OK. What do you remember about Sam and Betty's divorce?
- B: They were two cats in one bag. They were always fighting. Finally, she couldn't take it anymore and divorced him.
- J: Is that when you were in the service?
- B: I was in the service. It was in the 1940s.
- J: My mother [Clare] said that M.P. had advised Betty not to marry Sam.
- B: A number of people told her that.
- J: Did Joe tell her that?
- B: I think Joe told her, my father told her because they were cousins, you know. Sam was not from the great wage earners.
- J: I thought he made money during Prohibition.
- B: That was it. He never hung onto it.
- J: What did he do with it?
- B: Who knows.
- J: What do you remember about Raful Carol?
- B: He was a character. I don't know if he ever made a living. He was not one of the favorites of the family.
- J: He had an ice cream parlor with Joe in the early days.
- B: That's right.
- J: They had a falling out according to Barney B. Barney B. said it was entirely Raful's fault.
- B: He can believe that.
- J: You would believe that.



Betty and Sam Radov

B: I would believe it. Yes.



Independent Iron & Metal Co.

J: When Joe was having tough times, your father took him in and brought in to Independent Iron, right?

B: When he was having a tough time, my father made him an independent contractor. So, what he told him is, you go out to the various dealers and you buy the material, we will pay for it, we will pick it up and we will split it three ways. One-third for you, one-third expenses and one-third for the company. That's how they worked.



El Producto Blunts

J: OK. I told you at the wedding that, when Joe went to Europe, he took El Productos.

B: Yes. That's what he smoked. They were a quarter apiece then, Joel. They were very expensive. [See Bucharest and its Consul, A93-98].

J: They were very high end at that time. Handmade is that right?

B: Yes. It was top of the line at that time.

J: And he always had them in his pocket.



Hotel Lawrence

B: Always. And he never shaved himself. He always went to a barbershop.

J: Everyday?

B: Everyday. Hotel Lawrence. Best hotel in Erie, on 10th Street.

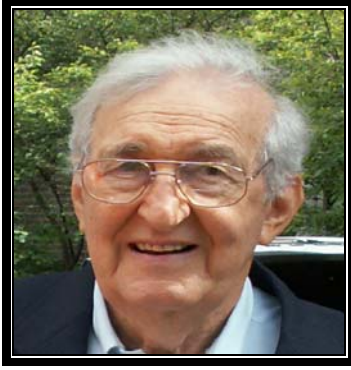
J: What else did he do?

B: You know they [Joe and Cirka] had a restaurant, don't you?

J: They had a Kosher restaurant where Cirka and Esther cooked.

B: It was upstairs and the back room was for gambling, where the house took a rake.

- J: I heard that.
- B: It's true.
- J: There are a lot of politicians who came through and other people who were connected.
- B: Yes.
- J: And Joe was friendly with all of them.
- B: The politicians came to him for the Jewish vote or if they wanted some favors. He was very well connected. He took care of the politicians.
- J: One of them apparently said he would offer Barney B. a job in the 1930s and then reneged on it. Miles B. Kitts.
- B: What happened is, Uncle Joe got Barney B. a senatorial scholarship. Kitts was his connection.
- J: Right, to the Temple. But Joe had to turn out the Jewish vote for him.
- B: Right.
- J: That's the story. Did you know the Boston family, Eileen, Bernie and Sandy, growing up?
- B: Not really. Bernie came by when Betty and I were married in Erie one time. He was selling medical equipment and we spent some nice time together. I know when we went to New York when I was a kid, we saw the Cohens.
- J: What did their father do?
- B: He was a printer. He was a printer of stocks and bonds for Wall Street.
- J: He was married to Minnie, right?
- B: That's right. Nice guy, very nice person.



Barney R. Radov

J: You said that after your father died, you cleared out his safety deposit box. You found a stack of IOUs.

B: IOUs and postdated checks about 6 to 8 inches high.

J: How many were there?

B: There had to be probably 50 to 75, I would guess.

J: These are people your father had lent money to over the years.

B: That is correct.

J: What did you do with them?

B: Well, my father, if he wanted to do something about it, he would have. He used to loan money to people without any paperwork or anything on a hand shake. I didn't know what to do with all this money. I couldn't call these people. It wasn't for me to call these people and say "Why don't you pay." So I thought the best thing was to destroy them. So I burned them all.

J: You have no idea how much money was there?

B: It would be thousands of dollars. My father was so generous, people had no idea how many he helped out. Quietly. No fanfare. He would be embarrassed if anybody found out. He did that his entire life. He was an exceptional man.

J: I had heard that he helped hundreds of people.

B: Yes. Yes. He helped a lot of people get started. Some remembered, some didn't. He never asked any favors either. [The Erie Temple which, with the balcony and extra seats, held 500, never filled, even on High Holy Days. Yet there were not enough seats for my *Bar Mitzvah*. Looking out before the daunting crowd, I asked my father with some trepidation who were those people. He said they were friends of my grandfather, there to honor him on the first *Bar Mitzvah* of a grandson. Later, an older man came up to me and said, "Your grandfather helped me get started. He gave me money. Quietly. He is a great man."]

J: He never charged any interest on those loans, did he?

B: Never. Never. . [See Sonya's Tale, A134-143].

- J: Right.
- B: He spoke many different languages.
- J: Do you know how many?
- B: Probably about 6 or 7 because, when they gave him a horse and wagon and told him to go to the ethnic neighborhoods, he could speak all their languages.
- J: Yeah. I think it's actually more. Coming here he knew Hebrew, Yiddish, Ukrainian and Russian, Romanian, German, and then English.
- B: Polish.
- J: I thought he also knew French. [Morris and the pregnant Luba spent extra time in Europe, perhaps most of it in Cherbourg, France, taking the *R.M.S. Olympic* passage out, following by months the rest of the family].
- B: I don't know, but I wouldn't put it past him. He was extremely knowledgeable about the Torah and the Talmud.
- J: What happened to the all the Hebrew books in the house?
- B: He was the only one who could read them. They ended up at the Jewish Center [*Brith Sholom*] and may still be there in the library.
- J: That's the Radov Library. How did that start?



New Shul for CBS

- B: When the Jewish Center was being built, there was land. The *shul* was on 8th Street. Max Cohen, Lou Press and Morris Radov decided to buy that block on 32nd and 33rd at State. It was \$7,500. They each put in \$2,500, bought the land and gave it to the congregation.
- J: When was this?
- B: 1948. When they decided to donate money for the building, they put people's names with it: Max Cohen wanted the auditorium, Louis Press wanted the chapel, my father wanted the library. So he gave another \$25,000 which was a big amount at that time. And they put his name up on the library.
- J: He gave \$25,000 then.
- B: Yes. It was the M.P. Radov Library.

J: That's still there.

B: Still there. The name is still there too.

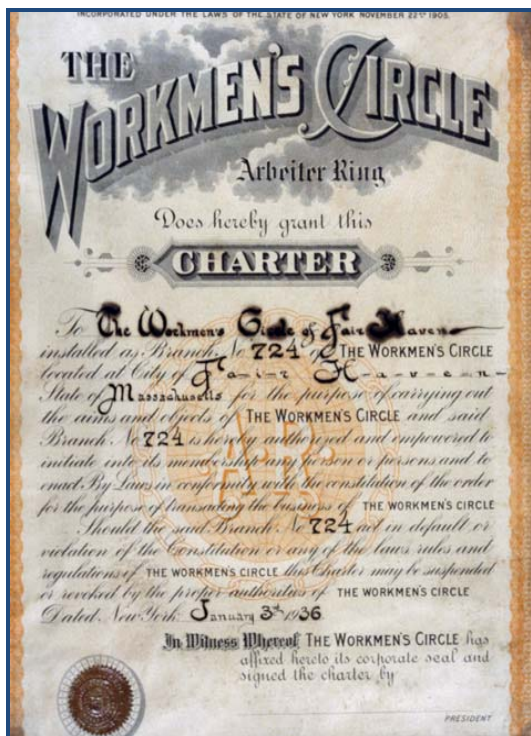
J: You had your Bar Mitzvah on 8th Street at the old *shul*? [See CBS Old Building & Cemetery, A99-107].

B: Yes.

J: And you gave a speech in Yiddish and in English?

B: Yes.

J: How's your Yiddish today?



The Workmen's Circle

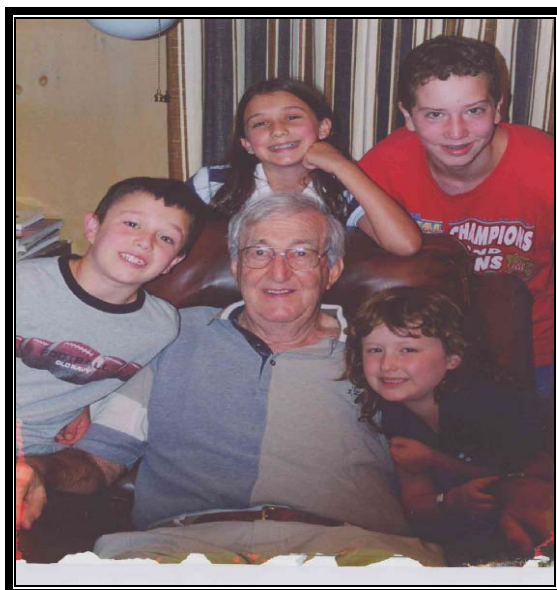
B: You have to remember Joel, when I was growing up my father sent me not only to the grammar school, he sent me to the Yiddish school on 24th Street and then from the Yiddish school I had to go to the *rebbe* for my Hebrew lessons. So I went to three schools all the time. I went from Jefferson [Elementary School], then to the *shula*, the Yiddish school, which was *the arbeter ring*, the Workmen's Circle [a Yiddish language, Jewish fraternal organization interested in social justice, which runs schools, camps and retreats], a socialist group. That was all Yiddish. You had to learn to read, write and speak Yiddish. From there, I went to see the instructor, who had a horse and wagon. He used to take rags and deliver them to my father, but he was extremely knowledgeable in Hebrew, so a gang of us used to go there for our private Hebrew lessons.

J: What did you call him? Did he have a title?

B: No. Just Mr. He was about 4'6".

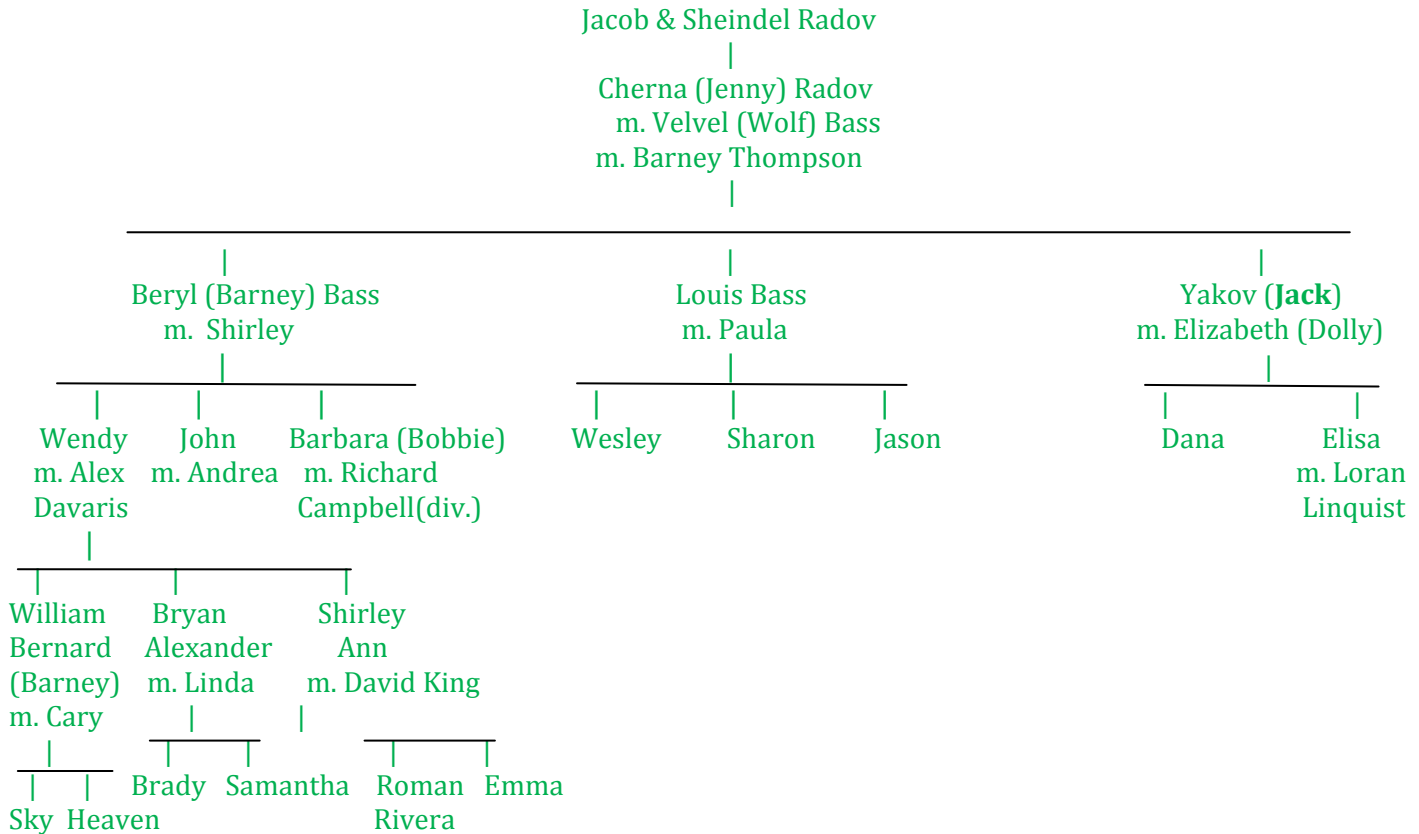
J: OK. I have this 1950 book [*Brith Sholom Yearbook*] which has pictures. You might think that every other Board member, every third committee member of everything, had the last name Radov. [See CBS Old Building & Cemetery, A99-107].

B: Yes. We were all involved.



Michael, Diane, Daniel and Susan with
Barney R. Radov (2003)

JACK THOMPSON



Jack Thompson; Conversation with Joel Levin – Tuesday, September 21, 2011

J: Jack, I wanted to ask you a bit more about growing up in New York.

JT: I was 8 years old when we left New York for Erie. This was during the War, about 1942.

J: But you grew up in New York, not Erie.

JT: No, I was 8 years old when I left New York and then about 3 years in Erie and then the rest in California. We lived in a section of Brooklyn known as Brownsville which was basically a working class neighborhood heavily populated by Jews. It was where Murder Incorporated was founded.

J: Where did you live in Brownsville?

JT: At Howard Avenue, between Pitkin and Sutter avenues.

J: When you were growing up there, was your older brother [Barney Bass] already out of the house?

J: Barney?

JT: Yes. He was living in the apartment.

J: When you lived in New York, was your father alive?

JT: He died when I was 4 years old. So he died at the age of 40, I believe.

J: He worked in the jewelry business?



Wolf, Louis, Barney and Cherna Bass

JT: He was a fine craftsman, making jewelry and things like that and, of course, that wasn't needed, so he wound up with a pick and shovel with the WPA. It was the height of the depression.

J: Where did you go to school?

JT: Went to P.S. 156 in New York. Then in Erie at Garfield. Then to Wilson Junior High, but just for a couple few weeks and then we went out to California.

J: Did you know the Mandibergs who had a deli in NYC and then in Patterson?

JT: No. I might have gone over there and been there once or twice with my folks, with my mother, but I wouldn't know them by name.



P.S. 156 in NYC

J: What do you remember about Lena and Harry in New York?

JT: They were in New York. My mother [Cherna] and she were very close. Lena was like a second mother to me.

J: What was Harry like?

JT: He was illiterate. As a matter of fact, Lena's favorite word for him, in front of people, was *schmuck*. He was just in the background there and wasn't treated very nice. He

treated me nice, I know that, but the close ones were my mother and Lena. They both picked on Harry.

J: So did you go to a *shul* [the Jewish Synagogue] in New York?

JT: Yes.

J: Where did you go?

JT: On Howard Avenue, they have a candy store on one end, a deli on the other and in the middle a *shul*. And I remember going around on *Simches Torah* with the apples and the flags and all that stuff. The name I don't know. [Congregation *Beth Abraham*].

J: Was this Orthodox?

JT: Oh, yeah. Everyone was Orthodox. The whole neighborhood was Orthodox.

J: Where did you move to in L.A.?



1933 Rededication of Beth Abraham Synagogue

JT: What happened is this. My brother Barney was here [in L.A.] during the war, and my mother got tired of the cold weather, so we came out here and stayed with Barney's father-in-law for a little while. Then we found a couple of places in East L.A. and then went into the Fairfax area and then that was it. I don't know if you are familiar with what I'm saying, in the Fairfax area or East L.A.



Clock Tower of Farmers Market at 3rd and Fairfax in L.A.

J: Yes. Generally.

JT: East L.A. was a tough area then, but there were a lot of Jewish population with a mixture of Latinos. Then most Jews integrated to the Fairfax area and then from the Fairfax area to the San Fernando Valley. That's what happened.

J: When you were out there, how well did you know Bill Carol?

JT: Very well.

J: What was your view of him?

JT: I disliked him.

J: What were his kids' names?

JT: Madeline, Elaine and Stanley. Bea was the wife. She was a big, husky woman with big arms and all that. She was very nice. I think I remember going and eating over there and she would make *schmaltz* [chicken skin or fat] sandwiches on white bread. There was fly paper over the table and the flies were dropping into the food. That's what I recall. But Bill was not a nice guy. Not a nice guy at all. He abandoned the kids, came out here and was hiding from process servers. Lena took him in.

J: They eventually did get a divorce.

JT: Let me tell you what happened. Somehow they got caught under the pier, the two girls [Elaine and Madeline] messing around with some guys. It was my understanding that Bill was real mad and beat the hell out of them and subsequently totally abandoned both girls.

J: You told me that you remember that there was a big storm in the family when Sam and Betty decided to get a divorce.

JT: Keep in mind that Erie had the population that was, what, 150 or so Jewish families. What happened was a *get* that was unheard of in those days, a divorce as you know. So it was a big scandal. Not because they were fooling around with anyone, but just the fact that they got divorced. Who gets divorced? Jewish folks don't get divorced. Remember, we're talking about the early 40s.

J: Right.

JT: I knew Jack Radov very well.



Proceedings before Russian Rabbinical Court (*Beis Din*) for a divorce (*get*)



Jack and Edie Radov

J: You knew Edie as well.

JT: They came over the house, Jack and Edie, and they had these 2 kids, these 2 boys. We went out, and the 2 kids lit a fire that almost burnt the house down. They lit a fire in this trash can. I couldn't believe it.

J: [Laughing].

JT: 10 years old or thereabouts.

J: Did you tell me that you thought Sam Radov was a cop for a while?

JT: Yes. What would happen is at Academy High School, they had Friday night football games. Sam was over there with a gun and a police uniform and he would let us in to the games without paying.

J: But he served time.

JT: Yes. The understanding was that with the bootlegging thing, he took the fall and did spend some time. The appellate court case you sent me [Bootlegging Case, A29-31] mentions that.

J: Right.

JT: He used to talk about that. I saw him very, very often over here in Los Angeles. He would come over and eat at Lena's and I would eat there quite a bit too. He would mention the fact that he took the brunt of it and went to jail and got nothing. You know, like the black sheep in the family. Remember, when I saw him on the street on Fairfax, when I was a kid, he was going to buy me a bar and he was going to buy me this and that. Then he would borrow money for dinner and to pay for his laundry. Borrow from a kid, selling papers.

J: You knew Lena's daughter, Sheila, very well.

JT: Sheila was very unhappy because of her mother and father. They were fighting all the time. Well, the mother was fighting, he just sat quiet. Murray was the favorite. Lena just adored him. They would hold hands and he even had a tattoo with Mother with a heart on there and it was just something else again. I guess she [Sheila] wanted to get out of the house, whatever so she meets this guy.



Mona Sheila Bergida

J: Is this Bruce?

JT: Bruce.

J: Okay and he was a cab driver

JT Yes, but Harry would tell his friends that he was a doctor. Bill beat him up because Sheila told him that he insulted Lena. That was the end of the marriage. Barry was the issue of the marriage.

J: So that was with Bruce and Mike had 2 kids with Sheila?

JT: Yes. Marc and Lindy who died. Marc's in Vegas and he's living with this gal. Marc [Bergida] and I do communicate from time to time. He makes his living as a gambler, if you can believe that.

THE VENETIAN®			
2009 DEEP STACK EXTRAVAGANZA SERIES			
OCTOBER 30 TH - NOVEMBER 25 TH			
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GAMING DETAILS	WINNERS	PRIZE MONEY	HOMETOWN
Buy In - \$300	1 Grant Mercado	\$ 23,692	United Kingdom
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Entry Fee - \$40	3 Tammy Wing	\$ 9,625	Alberta, CA
	4 Billy McKenzie	\$ 6,713	Bakersfield, CA
Prize Pool - \$ 98,719	5 Samuel Leckie	\$ 5,035	Scotland
	6 Michael Noda	\$ 3,949	Philadelphia, PA
Number of Players - 341	7 Neil Fray	\$ 3,337	Las Vegas, NV
	8 Stephan Moreschi	\$ 2,764	San Diego, CA
	9 Marc Bergida	\$ 2,369	Los Angeles, CA
	10 James Boone	\$ 1,876	Las Vegas, NV

Marc Bergida's results in the Venetian Deep Stack Poker Tournament

J: By the way, you said that the *shul* you attended was on Howard Avenue near Lavonia.

JT: Yes. Lavonia was where P.S. 156 was. Around there.

J: I looked it up while we were talking. It's called *Beth Abraham*. Does that ring a bell?

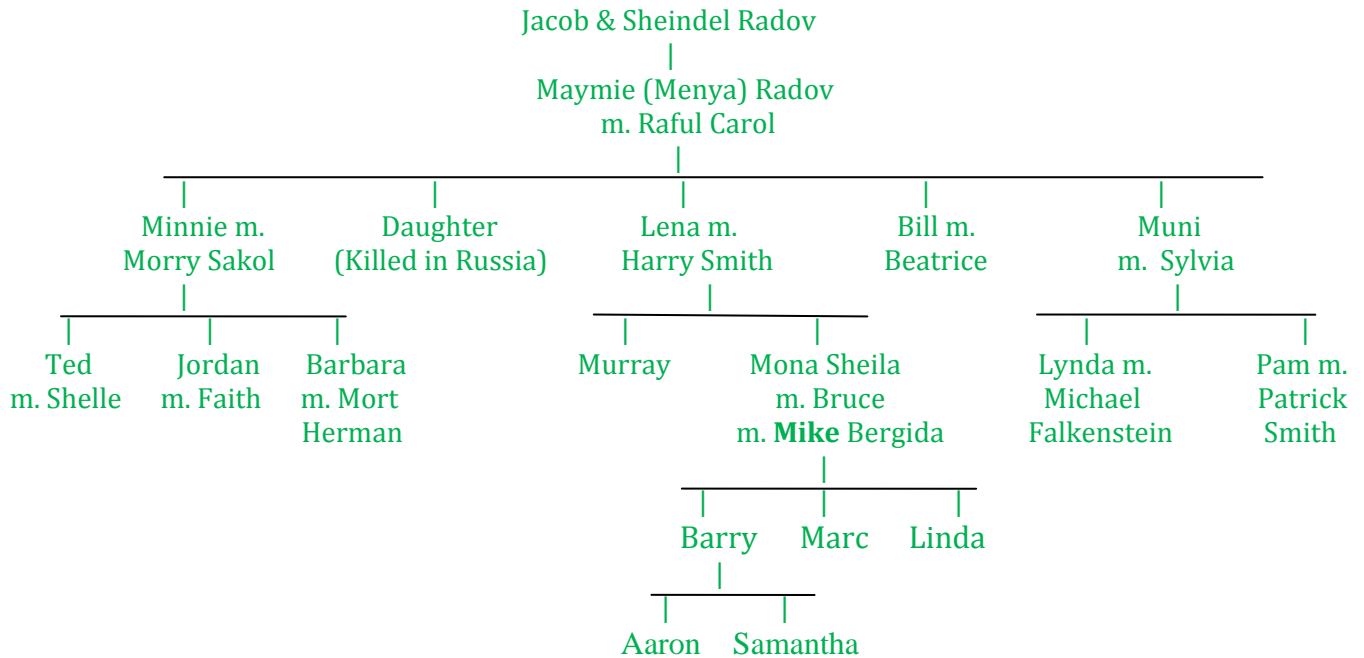
JT: Oh, God, you know I don't what it was. We were talking about 70+ years. I don't know what it was then. I don't even know if there's a Jewish neighborhood anymore quite frankly.

- J: No, actually I found it on the site called the Lost Synagogues of Brooklyn. I think these are ones that don't fighter.
- J: The last thing you had told me was that you used to collect papers and sell them to Morris and Joe at the scrap yard?
- JT: Yes. Murray Smith and I would collect newspapers and scrap and haul it to the scrap yard and get paid a small amount.
- J: Who'd you do this with?
- JT: My cousin Murray. Sheila's brother.
- J: Then you'd go in the back and resell it.
- JT: Yes. They knew it. It wasn't an ongoing thing, it was just that I had the idea, I was the larcenous one. [Laughing]. Murray was a follower. Murray and I would take a wagon and we would get scrap or paper, and we'd take it down and Uncle Morris was there, that was on 21st Street if I'm not mistaken where the junkyard was and we lived on 21st with Aunt Esther. We would go and Murray lived on 26th Street – Lena had a house, okay. We would go down there and you know we'd bring the stuff, whatever it was and get paid. Then we would sneak back and take some of the same stuff out of there when they weren't looking, put it on the wagon, and came back the next day. Things like that.



Diana, Jack and Dan Thompson, Elisa and Loran Linquist – 2011

MICHAEL BERGIDA



Mike Bergida; Conversation with Joel Levin – Tuesday, October 4, 2011

J: When did you and Sheila get married?

M: 1960, maybe.

J: She passed away about 7 years ago?

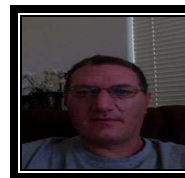
M: Yeah, about 7 or 8.



Mona Sheila Bergida

J: You had 3 children. She had 1 before [Barry], and you had 2 together, Marc and Linda?

M: Yeah. Marc and Linda.



Marc Bergid



Barry Bergida

J: Linda also passed away?

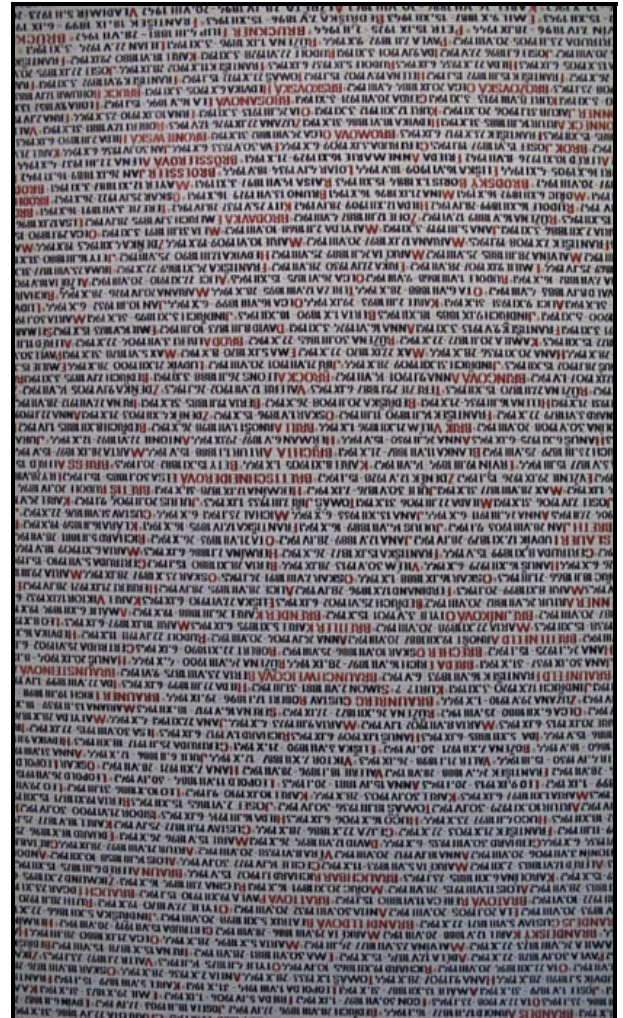
M: Yeah, how do you know those things?

J: I'm trying to do a family history from the Erie family, from Chicago and Boston, from Jack Thompson.

- M: Jack, all right [laughs].
- J: Do you know what happened to Bill Carol?
- M: He passed away about 6 years ago.
- J: Is his wife still alive?
- M: He had a few wives. I don't know.
- J: What happened to his children?
- M: They didn't get along. I don't know exactly what happened, but they didn't talk for a long time.
- J: Do you know where they are today?
- M: I have no idea.
- J: You knew Cherna. What was she like?
- M: Nice lady.
- J: What about Lena and Harry?
- M: Lena was a nice lady and Harry was not too educated. He was a plain man.
- J: He was a painter, right?
- M: Painter, yes.
- J: How did you meet Sheila?
- M: Here in Los Angeles. Someone introduced me.

- J: Where are you from?
- M: I was born in Czechoslovakia. July 3, 1928.
- J: Did you lose most of your family in Europe?
- M: I've got a sister here.
- J: How many people did you lose?
- M: Out of 7 children, 2 were left.

- J: How did you get out?
- M: How? I had miracles. Anyone who escaped from there: it was a miracle.
- J: Were you in a camp?
- M: I was in a camp. I was in Auschwitz – Birkenau. [Auschwitz had 3 main camps and 45 satellite camps. The 3 main ones were a base camp (Stammlager), a labor camp (Buna), and the *Vernichtungslager* or extermination camp (Birkenau).]
- J: You were in Auschwitz?



Pinkas Synagogue, Prague, Memorial to 80,000 Czech victims of the Shoah



Auschwitz Gate with the infamous motto, *Arbeit Macht Frei*, or 'Work Sets you Free.' The prisoners themselves said, '*Arbeit Macht Frei Dunch den Schonstein*' or 'Work Brings Freedom through the Chimney.'

M: [Pause]. Yeah. [Not all Czech Jews were interred. Some escaped. Some converted. Sec. of State Madeline Albright's family (although members were lost) did both.

J: What is your son Marc, doing? I see he has a site as a poker player.

M: How do you know about him?

J: I try to do my research. My understanding is that Barry is a dealer on an Indian reservation in Arizona and Marc is a poker player in Las Vegas. Is that right?

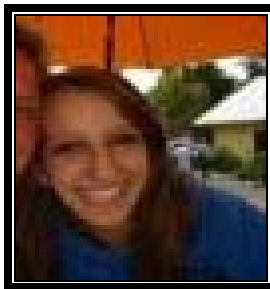
M: Yeah, yeah. You're right.



Madeline Albright with Mary Jane Levin at the Levin House in 2004 for event to support John Kerry.



Aaron Bergida



Samantha Bergida

J: Does Barry [Bergida] have any children?

M: He has two children, Samantha and Aaron.

J: What about Marc?

M: Marc is not married. He lives on credit.

J: On what?

M: He lives on credit.

J: How does that work?



Mona Sheila at Clare Levin's wedding (1950)

M: He lives with a woman. That's it.

J: He plays poker for a while and lives a woman for a while, and that's how he does it?

M: He lives with her a long time. What else!

J: Did you know Barney or Louis Bass?

M: I remember Barney. He lived in L.A. I don't know about the children. What about Jack?



Barney Bass

J: Jack Thompson is the younger brother. But they didn't get along so well.

M: No. No. It's true. You're right.



Jack Thompson

J: Do you know the name of Sheila's first husband?

M: Sheila's first husband? I heard about him, but don't know his name.

J: Where did you and Sheila live in L.A.?

M: Same part I live now. We lived with her mother and father, on Laurel Ave. Four blocks from Cedars-Sinai.

J: What kind of work did you do?

M: I was in the meat business. I was a butcher.

J: Do you still do that or are you retired?

M: No. I'm an old fart. I'm 83. I'm retired. I'm not working. I'm not doing nothing. [Laughs]. That's it.

J: Do you have a computer?

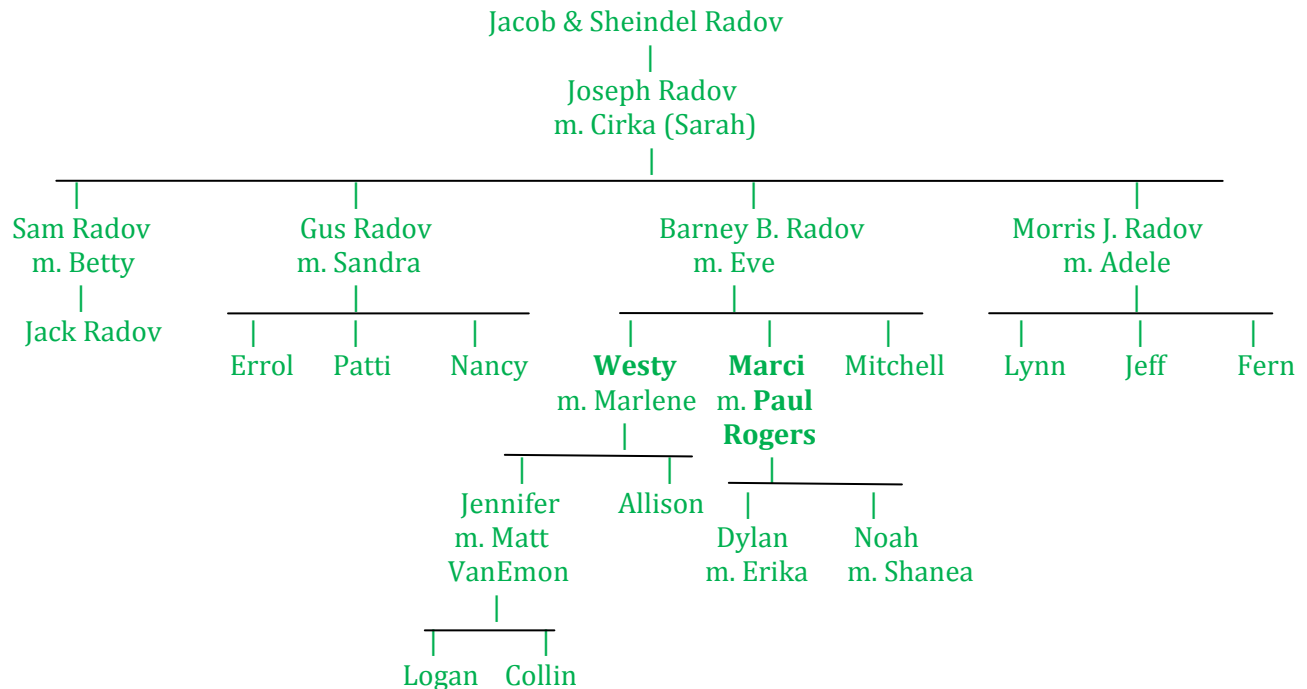


Cedars-Sinai Hospital

Radov Conversations, Spring and Fall 2011

- M: I don't have a computer. When Sheila died, I gave it away. I don't use a computer.
- J: Do you want the family history? I'll send you some of it, and if you want more, I'll send it all.
- M: Okay. And what is your name?
- J: My name is Joel Levin. Again, I'm Morris and Luba Radov's grandson, Sheila's second cousin.

MARCI & PAUL ROGERS
AND WESTY RADOV



Marci, Paul Rogers & Westy Radov; Conversations with Joel Levin – October 11, 13, 2011

J: What do you remember about your grandparents, Joe and Cirka [Sarah]?

M: I remember them being quite old. My grandmother had a house-keeper and my grandfather kept a drawer of red lifesavers he would give us. I remember their house. I don't remember family dinners there. He was very kind, very big, very bald and she was very little, with white hair, almost frail. She didn't speak English very well, so I had trouble understanding her. I understood my grandfather much better.



1925 – Sarah, Gus, Morris, Barney, Sam, and Joseph Radov

J: Did you call her Cirka?

M: No, I called her *Baba*. [The distance from superstitious and medieval Ukraine to technological America was not only to be measured in miles. When Joe and Cirka first bought a television, with its relatively small screen, in the evening Cirka would move her chair close to the TV and listen intently for what she, for some time, took to be a personal conversation. When Milton Berle or Steve Allen spoke, Cirka spoke back, taking their speech and gestures to be personally directed to her. Politeness, required her always to

respond back, with speech, smiles, concern and applause. It was not evident to her that there was a mass audience, rather than an audience of one, and proximity and responsiveness were only appropriate from her perspective, that of a Jewish-Ukrainian peasant in a tsarless, impersonal, American world].

W: My grandfather died when I was 9½ years old. My Grandpa Joe would come over, maybe once or twice a week, even before I was in nursery school, and he would put me in his Pontiac and take me for a ride. We'd go down to the dock and drive around for about an hour or so, and he would bring me back. I still remember that to this day, going to the Erie dock.



Erie Public Dock

J: What do you remember about your great-aunt and uncle, Luba and Morris?

M: I remember your grandfather as being a lovely man, gentle, and Luba being absolutely stunning. She would have Paul and me come over for tea and she would drink not tea, but boiling water with lemon. She told us that she always liked to have something around her neck, like a high neckline on her shirt, because she didn't want to show that she had any wrinkles and she had long sleeves, even if it was the summer time. She said she had clothes specially made so that people wouldn't see her arms. We thought that was so funny. She was lovely. She was a lady, an amazing lady. I remember their house being done in French Provincial, with angels, and very fancy. Like the French would have it and a lot of pinks. Lovely people. I have very fond memories of them both. They were good to me when I met Paul and brought him over here. Morris I don't believe was alive at that time, but Luba was very kind to us, understanding and kind.



Classical Ukrainian Samovar for making tea or hot water

J: Paul, what do you remember of them?



Luba Radov

P: Luba wanted to check me out, to see what I was. That's what the family told me. "Luba wants to check you out." So I was pretty scared. I had never met her and I thought who is this Luba? Everyone seemed to kowtow to her. She was just delightful. She was absolutely delightful. In fact, she took us a few times to the University Club and we went out for lunch there and she was just a charming and lovely lady. That's what she was. She was very sweet. She gave me the seal of approval. The men were gone and there were just two grandmothers alive. Marci's other grandma and Luba. I was lucky they both liked me and that was it.

J: What else do you remember?

M: My father would always tell me that she was not a *prima donna*, as some people thought. She was a very hard-working woman, with a lot of passion, that had been through so much. I knew that she lost a daughter, but I didn't know really about the family in Russia. But he respected her incredibly as a very strong lady. M.P. absolutely adored her. My father thought they had such a wonderful marriage, that they were very strong, very close together. He really admired both of them. My father would tell me what a great person she was. M.P. also. My father thought he his uncle was wonderful. I only heard good things about them. About my Uncle Sam [Radov] I heard other things. But everybody else, I heard good things.

J: Paul, where are you from?

P: Cardiff, Wales.

J: I'll be in Cardiff next month.

P: No kidding. Will you really?

J: We are going to England. We're going to be far enough in the West that we're going to spend a day in Cardiff and see Cardiff Castle.

P: Oh, it's the college of Music and Drama. It's gorgeous there. Well, that's marvelous.



Cardiff Castle

J: Paul, you were telling me a story at Adele's stone setting, something about a shooting.

P: I told you that Morris [laughing], that Morris [J.] shot his brother in the ass and that was told at the funeral. But I guess you can't put that in there, can you?

J: At who's funeral?

P: At Morris [J.] Radov's funeral, not your grandpa, but Barney's brother. The guy said "Well you know, now he was gone, they could say he shot his brother Sam in ass." They had a cowboy gun, like a Colt cowboy gun. They used to pick up the bootleg stuff by Northeast. They all wanted to hold this gun. It was Morris' turn and he shot his brother in the ass by accident. But it was like a big joke and it was a "keep it under your collar" kind of thing. Other than that, they were all just so sweet and so respectable.



Mid-20th Century Colt Revolver



Barney B. Radov

J: That might make it anyway. Don't worry, you'd be surprised.

P: Yes. [Laughing].

J: What did your father [Barney B. Radov] tell you about Russia?

W: My father told me the story that our great-grandfather, Jacob [Yankel or Yakov] was a very learned man. He was a map reader. He could read, so he had a good job with the government. He was respected in the community. Even though he was Jewish, he worked in a government office reading maps and documents. My grandfather got a job as an apprentice for 2 years in the brass factory. My grandmother was a seamstress and she was apprenticing in another factory. There was a courtyard near where they worked where they would have lunch together. He met my grandmother in the courtyard. She was 4 years older than he was, but he fell in love with her. He was 19 when he got married and she was 23. They had to wait until her older sister saved for a dowry and got married first.

J: But they got married.

W: In those days, they were drafting men into the Army. But the Russian Army required passing a tuberculosis test. My grandfather's plan was to come to America, but they were going to draft him in the Army. Before the TB test, my grandfather switched sputum with somebody else he had paid. It looked like tuberculosis so he avoided the draft.

J: Apparently, he was put into a TB hospital for that condition and had to continue those tests and that deception for a while.



TB Hospital Ukraine

W: Right. Then my grandfather came to America. [His sons] Sam and Gus were already born. My grandmother and Sam and Gus lived upstairs from where my great grandparents lived. Your grandfather, Morris, told my father and me that, as a little boy, he remembered my grandmother to be a very pretty woman, and dressed very nicely and taking very good care of the boys. Your grandfather was perhaps 10 or 11. They lived with their great-grandparents upstairs. So apparently Morris lived downstairs with Ida, who was still there.

J: This would be in Russia.

W: It must have been Makarov or whatever village they lived in. I'm not sure where it was. [See Makarov and Babi Yar, A3-6].

J: What did you hear of Joe's trips to and from Russia?

W: My grandfather came here in 1908 and worked for 3 years. He saved enough money from what he did, brass works and the peddling and the rags, to go back to Russia once again, and brought back his wife, Sarah, and 2 boys, Sam and Gus, and Ida. This was 1911. My father was born in 1913 and Morris in 1916. Joe and Sarah had several miscarriages and one baby died. But, my grandfather, before he returned, made a ton of money in the fruit business. When he went back, he took \$40,000 or \$50,000. Later, your grandfather and my grandfather went their different ways, but as I got older, I began to understand, the family who came over remained very close. In 1963 or 1964 when Ida died, it was the High Holy Days. I was sitting near your grandfather and somebody came in to tell him that Ida Halperin died. Uncle Morris' head just went right down in tears.



Barney B. and Eve Radov

J: You know, the fact is, that your grandfather was already involved in bootlegging before he picked the family up in 1922. Bootlegging began in 1919. That probably helped the funding. He already had the fruit business and he also had the restaurant, he had the small restaurant I think by that point, but he also had the bootlegging. What did you hear about the restaurant?

W: I heard that the restaurant was by 24th and State, with grandmother and Aunt Esther the cooks. It was a very busy place. My father would tell me stories about the customers coming and putting ketchup in their chicken soup. They did well in that restaurant for however long they had it.

J: They also had card playing in one of the rooms.

W: Right. That was another thing that they all did. No matter what, at night, they would always sit around playing cards, playing piano, singing, tell stories. Everybody was there for everybody else, regardless.

J: At home, they kept kosher.

W: Yes. They all had kosher homes. They all kept kosher in and out. That was a different world. I remember as a little boy, in the early 1950s, we would go down with my grandparents and parents, my uncles, Gus, Sandra, Patti, Nancy, Adele's parents, my mother's parents, and your grandparents to Cambridge Springs. They went there to drink the mineral water, but there was a kosher restaurant there. And we would go there sometimes on Sunday and stay for dinner.

J: What about the great-aunts and uncles?



River Hotel at Cambridge Springs

W: I remember the first person that would come from out of town was Bill Carl. My father called him Beryl. He was very gruff and tough. He was a big man. He acted like a big shot. I do remember that he talked a lot. Sometimes he would converse in English, sometimes in Yiddish, but he respected my grandfather and my grandfather kept him under control. I certainly felt a sense of respect there. I remember Cherna. When Cherna or Bill or Barney Bass would come to Erie, they would stay at my grandfather's house, and would always go back and forth to your grandfather's house and visit. It was like one big, happy family.

J: You never met Muni, did you?

W: Muni Carl? No. But he was one of my father's favorite cousins. One of the things my father enjoyed most about Muni is that they would converse in Yiddish together. My father was born in 1913. Muni was born in 1914. But they were very close and, even when Muni moved away, they would converse in Yiddish.

J: What about others?

W: Beryl [Bernard] apparently was 26 when he died in Russia and had 4 children. When he was sick, our great-grandfather put him in a horse and wagon and tried to get him to another town where there was a doctor. They didn't make it in time. I also know that Peter, when he married Esther, before they came to America, did quite well, even had servants. I don't know what he did, but he was successful in what he did.

J: He ran a livery, what they call a livery service.

W: With horses.

J: With horses. He took on as apprentice, and eventually partner, his youngest brother Morris when Morris was 12.

W: They were 27 years apart.



Traditional Livery Stable

J: He took Morris in, and then Morris made a great success for his part, because he expanded the business into working with the railroads. So it was a very good partnership, from the start. They apparently lived in Fastov, the great railroad center in Russia between Paris and Shanghai, and the city the family left from in 1922. [See Fastov, A71-72. All the Ellis Island records show the entire family, more or less, from Fastov, but this may or may not be accurate. It may have been only the departure city. Many things in those records – spellings, ages, relationships – we know to be in error].

M: I don't remember Russia stories other than my father's tape. I know he lost his baby sister, the only girl, because she was thrown in the air and dropped accidentally. But one thing not on the tape was that my father had TB [unlike his father, who faked it] that

settled in one lung and one kidney. On his wedding night, he actually went to the hospital and had his kidney removed. No one knew about it except, of course, my mother. No one knew that he actually went to the hospital after their wedding and had his kidney removed.

J: Instead of going on a honeymoon?

M: I don't even know. They might have told people that they were going on a honeymoon.



Jeff Radov, Paul and Marci Rogers, Marlene and Westy Radov - 2009

J: Westy, you are married to Marlene and have 2 children?

W: Jennifer and Allison. Jennifer is married to Matt VanEmon, and they have 2 children, Logan and Collin.

J: What about Allison?

W: Allison is a senior in college. She's not married.

M: Paul and I have two as well, Dylan Radov Rogers and Noah Barratt Rogers. Those were two family names we used.

J: Your brother, Mitchell, made *aliyah* [the immigration or ascent of a Jew to Israel].

M: Yes. He does construction.

P: Puts up buildings. I hope he's not building settlements. But he's building.

J: Paul, how did you come to America?

P: Well, I didn't exactly want to come here. I went to the embassy twice and their quota was filled for the year.

J: This is the American Embassy?

P: Yes. Suddenly Barney and Eve show up in Wales and I'm sent back to the American Embassy in Grosvenor Square in London. I'm ushered into an office. I sit there and there's a woman there and her name is in Hebrew in front of her. She spoke to me for two minutes and went bam and there was a stamp. [Laughing]. Actually that evening. I guess it's who you know.



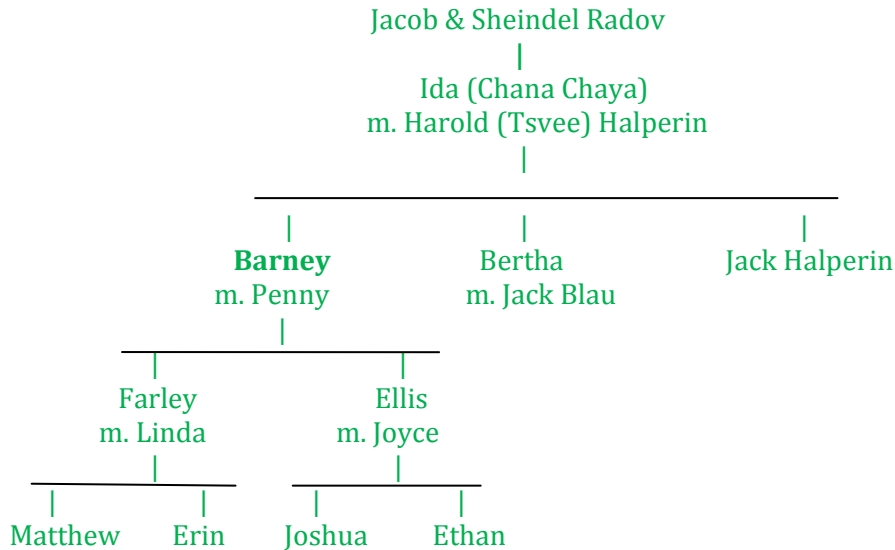
U.S. Embassy in London

J: That's great.

- P: Believe it or not, at 5:00 p.m., I have a television interview. I'm in the basement still working, so I have to put on a clean shirt and look good for TV. I'm a musician. We're playing somewhere and they're just interviewing us.
- J: What year did you come to the United States?
- P: Oh, what year? 1973.
- J: Back to your musical gig. What do you play?
- P: Oh, I'm in a Beatles tribute band, called *Abbey Road*.
- J: What instrument?
- P: Guitar and a singer. That's my Cat Stevens, you know, connection.
- J: You played with Cat Stevens?
- P: Yes.
- J: For how long?
- P: Oh, I played about 2 months. Then he got me a job in Germany and I went to Germany and I ended up in India. [Laughing]. And met Marci along the way.
- J: And you met Marci on the way to India?
- P: Yep.
- J: Marci, one last thing, who are you named for?
- M: My Hebrew name is for my great-grandmother, Sheindel Bossie. My Hebrew name is *Shayna Basya* which, in Hebrew, means the beautiful daughter of God. [*Basya* is the Ashkenazic version of the Sephardic Hebrew *Batya*, daughter of God. See Ashkenazi Jews, A123-128].



BARNEY HALPERIN



Conversation with Joel Levin – Wednesday, August 10, 2011.

Barney passed away on September 9, 2011, during the editing of this family history. When I first called him, we talked for about 5 minutes about the family, the interview, and how everyone was doing when he suddenly said, "Oh. It's you Joel. I'll be back in a minute. Let me put in my hearing aid." That relaxed and hearty attitude of addressing the important and unimportant, along with the lifelong *bonhomie* to all he met, always characterized Col. Barney Halperin. His nephew, Jimmy Blau, giving his eulogy, told of Barney several days before death, in cardiac failure, connected to machines stem to stern, coming out of morphine as an attractive nurse entered. Barney winked at Jimmy, Jimmy winked back, and then Barney signaled for Jimmy to come closer, barely conscious, but telling his nephew "Get me her phone number."



Barney Halperin

On a different note, the burial at the Orthodox cemetery in Erie, CBS, a cemetery founded by Joe (Zusie) Radov, presented all the incongruities of the family odyssey. Once located in the country, the miniscule cemetery now shares a corner with fast food and commercial businesses, on a road heavily traveled because of the nearby exit from the Interstate. Barney's funeral was conducted against truck and car noise, over customers looking for lunch nearby, chanted in Hebrew by an aged Rabbi, but punctuated by the clamor of full military honors for the Col. Halperin. Before the *Kaddish*, a multi-gun salute by a dozen sharpshooters, a military dirge on trumpet, a flag-folding ceremony, and the thanks of a grateful nation were heard for the son of Chana Chaya Radovskaia, the young girl who escaped misery, pogroms, and the bleakest of futures when Joe Radov – fleeing to America to avoid the Russian military – engineered her escape.



Gift of the flag from
a grateful nation

- J: Do you remember your grandfather [Yakov (Hebrew) or Jacob (English) or Yankel (Yiddish) Radov] at all?
- B: Of course, I was at his funeral. I remember him. Of course I do.
- J: What was he like?
- B: In which respect?
- J: In any respect.
- B: Well, of course, he was an old man when I got to know him. He lived with Zusie. That's Joe Radov. He was kind to the children as far as I know. There's not much I can tell you about him. I remember him as a tall, stately man with white, curly hair.
- J: Did he have red hair early? Somebody thought he had red hair as a young man.
- B: That he had red hair as a young man?
- J: Did he?
- B: I don't know. Incidentally, while I'm thinking of it, I went over this thing about the one who was an outcast that became a priest. You know who I'm talking about?
- J: Yes. Kayfman.
- B: If he was in Russia, it stands to reason that he was Russian Orthodox.

J: It stands to reason, but in Kiev, while it was mainly Orthodox, there were a few others. It was a major city. He could have gone to Kiev. He wouldn't have stayed in Makarov or Ekaterinoslav.

B: In Russia at the time, they did not have many Roman Catholics or Greek Orthodox.

J: Right. They were mainly Russian Orthodox.

B: That was my problem when I was reading it over, to determine which branch of the Christianity he was associated with.



Bertha Blau - 1959

J: Did anybody ever talk about him?

B: Not to my knowledge, although Bertha knew about it.

J: Let me go back for a minute to your grandfather. Did he ever say anything to you about Russia, his job there, about coming over, or his life in Russia?

B: No. He never discussed it with me, because I was a child. In 1924, I was 8 years old.

J: You don't remember any particular things that he said.

B: If he discussed anything, it would probably have been with Joe and Cirka, or with his wife, but not with the children. Unfortunately, if he talked to Sam Radov, who is gone now, we can't find out about him. But all the boys are gone now.

J: Morris [J., Joe's son] made a tape before he died about what he remembered. Jeff Radov is sending it me.

B: OK.

J: I'm going to have it typed up, the Radov part, and it will be included. Maybe he knows something. What do you remember about your grandmother?

B: Very little.

J: My mother [Clare Levin Radov] remembers playing with her. Did she play cards with you?

B: No.

J: Did she cook? Do you remember anything about her?

B: No. Not on that side. I remember my other grandmother on my father's side, who was with us for a couple years. I didn't know my other grandmother very well.

J: Did anyone tell any stories of Russia? Joe, Morris, your mother?

B: The only thing I know about Russia is that M.P., Morris Radov, was in the service and he got out with a friend, and the friend is supposed to be the one on the picture with him. [See 1922 Family Picture, A1-2].

J: Right. You were born in 1916.

B: Yes.



Chicken Cock Whiskey

J: In the early days, in the 1920s, do you remember what everybody did for a living?

B: Everybody was in the bootleg business.

J: What do you remember about that business?

B: Everybody was in the bootleg business. Joe Radov was well-liked and he was paying off the police department. Everybody was making money. Of course, my dad was in it too. He got caught and served a little time for that.

J: Your father?

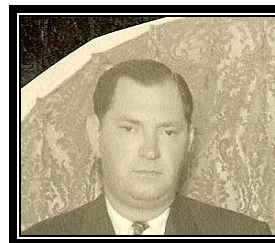
B: Harold.

J: Harold went to jail for a little bit.

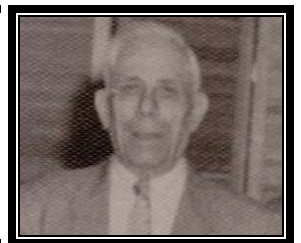
B: Yes.

J: I understand Sam Radov also went to jail.

B: That's right. [See *U.S. v. Radov*, Sam's illegal liquors in a car conviction, Bootlegging Case, A29-31]. They all did a little bit. As I say, Joe Radov paid off the police and they got fairly light sentences.



Sam Radov



Harold Halperin



Ida Halperin

J: Your mother came over in 1911. Do you remember when the rest of the family arrived in 1922?

B: Yes. I remember when they came in 1922. Yes.



Erie Union Station

J: What do you remember?

B: I remember going to the train station to meet them. And as you know, it was a big hullabaloo, with Joe leading the crowd and bringing them to America. Everybody was cheering. It was a festive occasion.

J: Anna was a baby then.

B: She was born at sea.

J: In the picture, by the way, the man next to your grandmother: was that Velvel?

B: Yes. Velvel was Jenny's husband.

J: Velvel was Wolf.

B: Velvel. In English, it would be Wolf.



Velvel (Wolf) and Cherna Bass - 1922

J: OK. What did your father, Harold, do for a living?

B: He was dealing in real estate. He would buy a house with a down payment to get rent. It worked out fine until the Depression hit. He couldn't make the payments and lost all the properties. Then he was a bootlegger. That's about it. He didn't get into the scrap business until he moved to Franklin [Pa.].

J: Then he was in the business, but a different business than Joe and Morris.

B: Yes. He was not with them.

J: Do you remember *Tanta Menya*?

- B: Of course. She was the oldest of the sisters.
- J: She's been gone so long. Can you tell me what you remember about her?
- B: She was a nice old gal. She was the mother of Muni and Bill Carl. Menya had those two boys that I mentioned and I think there was another one who was buried in the cemetery in Erie, [Morris Carlstein] but I can't remember who it was. Her husband was Raful.
- J: What was he like?
- B: He was a double-breasted bastard if there ever was one.
- J: Why?
- B: He never liked anybody and he never did anything for anybody. He was always on edge with everybody. That's about all I know about him.
- J: What did he do for a living?
- B: I don't remember. It wasn't in the scrap business, I'll tell you that.
- J: As for Menya, what was she like? You said she was very nice.
- B: She was. Very lovely and very nice. Always treated everybody good. All of the nieces and nephews, like me, were always welcome in her house, always treated me wonderful.
- J: Would she cook for you?
- B: She cooked for me.
- J: Did she cook a lot?
- B: Oh yes. She took care of the family very well.
- J: Do you know her oldest daughter, Minnie in Chicago, Minnie and Morry? Do you remember Minnie?

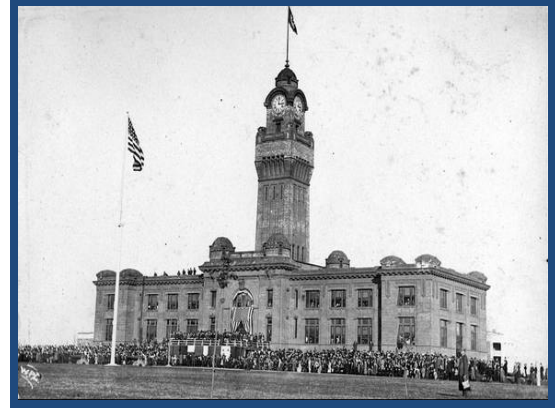


Menya Radov Carol – 1928

B: Of course, I did. I was stationed in Chicago. I would see them almost every day. I used to buy her cigarettes at the commissary.

J: What was Minnie like?

B: Minnie was a hard worker. She and her husband owned a shoe store. They both went to work everyday. They had three children. Jordan was the youngest and the girl. I can't remember her name.



Great Lakes Naval Station, Ross Field

J: Barbara.

B: Barbara, yes, and the oldest one was...

J: Ted.

B: Yes. They had three children. I was part of the family as far as she was concerned and she was glad that I would come over to see her. Of course, I had my own apartment. But I came over there. I would bring her cigarettes and she would make meals for me. She was real nice.

J: Menya had a daughter who, apparently, according to Bertha and according to Muni's children, died in Russia. Do you know anything about that?

B: No. I don't remember about that at all.

J: What do you remember about Muni as a kid?



Muni Carl

B: Muni was always a dreamer of big things. I know many times he started to write a biography about himself. It never got completed or very far. A couple of paragraphs and he would stop. I remember, because my father had a warehouse where he sold near-beer or wine and stuff away in Buffalo. He had this property on 19th and German. Muni would come over and used the typewriter in our office to write his book. Whatever happened to it, I don't know. Then he got married. He moved away and the only time I'd see him is if he came back for a couple of days or I would get a phone call. That's about it.

J: Did people write letters back and forth in the 1920s and 1930s, as the families started to spread?

B: No. It's too bad too, because there was a lot in the history of the family if the letters would be preserved.

J: Right. I heard there were some letters, but nobody seems to know what happened to them.

B: To who?

J: Luba wrote letters to her family in Russia and they wrote back in the 1920s and 1930s.

B: Luba was a different kind of a person. She was mostly by herself. She never liked anybody to know her business or what she was doing. She was kind of that type.



Luba Radov - 1960

J: Very private?

B: Yes.

J: Did they attend [Morris & Luba] as many of the family gatherings as everybody else? My mother [Clare] thinks that, by the end, there were a lot of big family affairs with Joe and Cirka and your parents, but her parents didn't always go.

B: There was a friction sometimes, you know, in business. If you're partners, or something like that, one thinks the other one is doing something wrong. It's a matter of petty jealousy in most cases. Not serious.

J: Do you remember Cirka and Joe having a restaurant downtown?

B: Of course. It was upstairs over a couple of other stores. You would have to climb a hundred stairs and it was a kosher restaurant. Cirka was the cook and they did very well for a time. What happened after that, I don't know.



Pinochle Deck

J: I understand there was a card game in the back room.

B: Yes. They played cards in the back room.

J: Did they make more money on that than on the food?

B: I have no idea whether there was a rake-off or not.

J: What do you remember about Pasey and Esther?

B: They were a couple who lived the quiet life. Unfortunately, they were millionaires in Russia and lost everything and came here. I think that Pasey always resented the fact that he had somebody paying for him, after all that he went through. I guess that in Russia he was the patriarch and he was the one who was used to paying. I think he resented it quite a bit.

J: Did they live in the same place as the rest of the family in Russia or did they move to another city?

B: In Russia, I think they were in a different city.

J: Were they in Kiev?

B: I don't know.

J: Do know what Pasey did in Russia, aside from having money?

B: No, I do not. They all knew that he was a very rich man and he lost everything to come here. [He was in the livery business].



Esther and Peter Radov - 1922

J: Why did he come here if he was going to lose everything? Was it the communists, the pogroms or what?



Ukrainian Pogrom

B: No, he came over, because of Joe, he brought them over one of the times.

J: Right. In 1922 he came over, but I was wondering why if he was doing well. Was he in danger in Russia?

B: I guess he was in fear of his life probably. They never had any children that I know of. [the Naturalization Papers of Peter reveal a child].

J: You don't know why?

B: No. They stayed by themselves, mostly, although they were invited to most of the family affairs.

J: What was Lena like?

B: Lena was always chipper and a wise-cracker. She was always good-natured. Very good-natured. Everybody thought that she was Cherna's daughter, which she wasn't, of course. They got along together. Why, I don't know. Now, I don't know.

J: But she didn't get along so well with her husband.

B: It could be.

J: What do you remember about the Mandibergs, your cousins?

B: The Mandibergs had a beautiful delicatessen at the end of the bridge, in Patterson, New Jersey. They had a couple of sons. One was in the business with them and the other one was at the University of Michigan with me.

J: So you knew Jack in college?

B: As a matter of fact, I went to the University of Michigan because Jack went there.

J: That one of the reasons you went to Michigan?

B: One of the reasons. Besides I knew it was a real good school. They had a good medical department. I was going to try to be a doctor.

J: What happened?

B: When I graduated from college, if you weren't one, two, three in your graduating class, you didn't get into the medical schools. They had 77 accredited medical colleges and I got 77 rejections.

J: You applied everywhere?



The Journal of the Association
of American Medical Colleges

B: Yes. I applied everywhere. I finally got accepted to The Physicians in Boston and I went up with a certified check. I took a look and there were guys in white coats who were yet pretty young and they're calling each other doctor. I said, "What are you here?" "We are sophomores and now we address each other as doctors." I said, "Where do you do the lab work?" "We try to catch on with the boys at Harvard or Tufts. That's how we do it." I looked over the premises. I called my dad and I said that I'm not giving them the check. This is bullshit. So I didn't go.

J: What did you and Jack do when you were in college together?

B: What did we do together? On off nights we would meet, play cards and go out with some of the fellows. Jack was a good student.



Jack Mandiberg - 1934

J: You knew him before he married Helen?

B: Of course.

J: Did you stay friendly later or did you lose track?



Allegheny College in Meadville, Pa.

B: We lost track of each other because, when President Roosevelt closed the banks in January of 1934, we didn't have any money. The college said all you have to do is, wherever you go, sign a chit and when the grades come out, we'll send the bill to your parents. If you don't pay, you don't get your grades. So my father said to come closer to home. I went to Allegheny the next year. So that's how I got to Allegheny. That's how Barney R. got to Allegheny. [Barney was one of 4 family members who transferred to Allegheny, from variously, Michigan (Barney Halperin), Penn State (Morris J. Radov), Washington and Lee (Barney R. Radov), and Tulane (Reid Levin). No one seemed to begin there).

J: He started out at Washington and Lee.

B: That's correct.

J: Did you know how the Mandibergs were related?

B: No. I don't remember. But I remember Mr. Mandiberg and Mrs. Mandiberg very well. They closed up the restaurant for Passover and they came to our house in Erie and they stayed for a week. Jack Mandiberg was with them for a week.

J: What were their parents like?

B: Wonderful people. You could tell that they were business people, meeting the general public, and very sophisticated. They knew how to handle people.

J: You knew your grandmother was a Mandiberg, right?

B: Yes. My grandmother, on the side we're talking about.

J: Yes.

B: Yes. I guess she was a Mandiberg.

J: Sheindel Bossie was a Mandiberg.

B: Yes, Sheindel. I'm not much help to you, am I?

J: No, you're very good. Did you know the family in Boston at all?



Sheindel Radov - 1888



Betty & Sam
Radov



Sandy Cohen

B: After Bertha met them at Betty's funeral, Sam Radov's wife, Betty Radov. She died and there was nobody at the funeral except from Boston. Bertha recognized them for some reason or another. They got to talking and started a whole thing with letters and phone calls. When Betty, Barney R.'s wife, got sick and went to Boston for treatments, they met up with them. Then, Bertha and I were invited to the wedding of Sandy's [Cohen] daughter.

J: Jack Thompson said to me that one of the big scandals in the family, one he remembers very well, was the divorce between Sam and Betty. Do you remember that?

B: No. I knew they were divorced.

J: They might have divorced during WWII.

B: I was in WWII.

J: Where were you in WWII?

B: All over the country, but mostly in Washington.

J: Did you go overseas?



Jack Thompson

B: I never went overseas. I have a couple of accomplishments. You know, I was in the scrap business too, with my father.

J: I didn't know that. I thought you were in the insurance business.



U.S. Army Chemical Corps

B: I was in the insurance business after the war, not before. Before the war, I was in the scrap business with my father. Of course, I was close to Barney R. and Barney B. I was MP's [Morris Philip Radov's] nephew. I was drafted in February of 1942 and I went right in. I graduated from OCS in December of 1942 and this General at the party said to me, "What did you do in civilian life?" I said, "I was a junky." He said, "You were what?" I said, "A junky. That means junkyard, not with a needle I was in the junk business." He said, "Oh. I have a place for you." I said, "Wonderful, thank you very much, General." That was it. Then I was sent down South to decontaminate airplanes. I was in Chemical Corps, the smallest corps in the Army and suddenly I get a call from this General. He said, "You were in the scrap business?" I said, "That's right." He said, "Let's go over to Pine Bluff Arsenal and take over the scrap thing, because they don't know what the hell they're doing."

J: What was your rank when you left the Army?

B: I was a Private when I went in the Army.

J: No, when you got out.

B: I'm a Lieutenant Colonel, Retired.

J: You went a lot higher than my father, who went into the Army as a Private, but only came out as a First Lieutenant [who was shot at regularly in Europe].

B: Well, I was elected to the Army General Staff.



Mace Levin – WWII, 1944

J: That's great.

B: You can't go any higher. There is nothing higher than the Staff. I was on the Staff as a captain and you're not allowed to be on Staff unless you are a field grade officer, that's Major or higher. So I told them, "It's easy, go downstairs to the Adjutant General and have him promote me to Major." "Oh. We can't do that." But they put me on the Staff. They bent the rules and said it will never happen again. I started watching it very carefully and it has never happened again. You have to be a field grade officer or you don't get on the Staff.

J: But later you got promoted.

B: Well, I went from there, I had a Presidential appointment for the command under a General at a staff college in Leavenworth, not the prison.

J: Right.

B: Eisenhower appointed me.



US Army Fort Leavenworth Patch

J: When did you leave the Army?

B: In 1969.

J: You weren't full-time in the Army then, were you?

B: I was in WWII and I was out. Then I was the first officer in Pennsylvania recalled for Korea. I was two years on duty there, also in Washington. I retained my position there in Washington. I was recalled every time something happened [1956]. I was recalled for Cuba, I was recalled for the Red Sea when they had that problem over there. I was recalled for every damn thing you could think of, on alert, and never went any place. I carried my uniform with me wherever I went and I got enough points to get out with a pension. So if anyone asks me, "How come a nice Jewish boy like you has 27 years service?" I told them, I was waiting for the pension.

J: What do you remember about Cherna?



Cherna (Jenny) Bass
Thompson

B: Cherna had the biggest *tuchus* I ever saw in my life.

J: Other than that.

B: When she came to my nephew Bertha's oldest son, Wesley, when she came to his wedding in Cherry Hill, New Jersey, I looked at her and I said "Cherna, you're my half-assed aunt." She had lost so much weight. She went around telling everybody that her nephew called her a half-assed aunt.

J: What was she like, though, as an aunt?

B: She was the youngest of the sisters. Mostly I knew her as a very cheerful person. She had it tough there for awhile. After her husband died and she remarried.

J: You mean after Wolf died?

B: Oh yes. Considerably after. She married this Englishman, this guy from England. His name was Vogel. I met Vogel's brother's children in Washington. We actually became relatives of a sort.

J: What do you remember about Bill, your cousin?

B: Beryl.

J: Yes. Beryl. What was he like?



Beryl (Bill) Carol



Independent Iron & Metal Co.

B: He was a conniver. A conniver. He was always trying to beat the system. He had an invention. He came to me and said, "Can you help me with the Army with that?" It was a shield, you know, brazing with metal. It was a shield to save the face, with special goggles. The shield was made in such a way that it would protect the whole face, but it still allowed you to see what you were doing. So I said to him, "I'll take it to the service. Get a copy." Well, he never gave it to me. He called me up and he said, "What should I do?" I said, "If you don't get me a copy, I can't help you." I was in the Pentagon and I knew everybody. He was looking for a loadstone which, of course, never happens. He never carried it out. He tried to sell it on his own and it didn't go. After that, I think he became to mooch on the family. [He did paint the white sign over Independent Iron & Metal Co.].

J: When did you and Penny marry?

B: September 1, 1946.

J: When did she pass away?

B: August. My mind went blank when you said when did she die.



Penny Halperin - 1963

J: I'm sorry. I don't mean to bring all this up.

B: It's alright. Just a second now. I have *Yahrzeit* [the anniversary of a death] for her next Friday night.

J: When was she born?

B: She was born May 8, 1924.

J: How old was she when she passed away?

B: 69 years old.

J: Then she died in 1993.

B: 1993 in August.

J: You had two children?

B: We adopted children, Farley Adam and Ellis Floyd. [See Jews, Adoption & Radovs, A121-122].

J: One of them passed away?

B: Ellis passed away in February of 2002. He was 46.

J: Did he have any children?

B: Two.

J: Are you still friendly with them?

B: I support them.



Barney, Farley, Ellis and Penny Halperin

J: What are their names?

B: Joshua Harold is the oldest one, and the other one is Ethan Bradley Halperin.

J: Where do they live?

B: The first one is in Modesto, California, with his mother, Joyce.

J: How old is he?

B: He was born on July 8, 1977. So he must be 34.

J: What does he do?

B: He's a retarded child.

J: I'm sorry.

B: He never worked.

J: What about Ethan?

B: He's into freelance. He quit school in the 11th grade. He was a super kid at school. All A grades. Then he went bad suddenly. He was even picked as one of the few in the country that they sent to Japan for a year to learn the customs. He never showed up. Now, I don't know where he is. I try to keep in touch with him, but he flips around.



Joyce, Barney and Ethan Halperin – 2010

J: What year was he born?

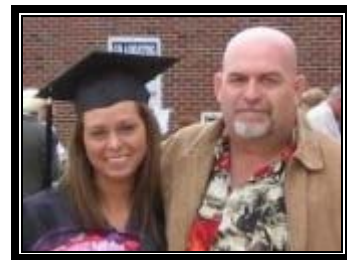
B: I think he's 23.

J: What about Farley? What's he doing?

B: Farley works for a medical firm in Pompano Beach, Florida.

J: Does he have children?

B: Two, Matthew Jared and Erin Alicia.



Erin and Farley Halperin

J: They all live in Pompano?

B: No, they live in Meadville, Pennsylvania. Farley's divorced. They live with their mother.

J: What's her name?

B: Linda. As a matter of fact, on the 18th, Linda and her two children are coming down here. I gave them plane fare.

J: That's great. What year was Matthew born?

B: September 5, 1980. Erin was born April 20, 1983, makes her 27 or 28.



Matt Halperin

J: Do you have any particular stories that you remember from the 1920s or 1930s?

B: No, I don't. All I know is that both of the boys got married. Both of them got divorced and papa's paying the bill. The one in California is retarded and couldn't hear when he was born. They took care of that, but he never developed. How much can she make after the divorce? So I have to take care of it for him. I have him in my trust, as much as I can afford. He got divorced and she's working two jobs. Erin just graduated as an inhalation therapist. She works in a hospital.

J: When do you turn 95?

B: August 24, two weeks hence.

J: Happy birthday.

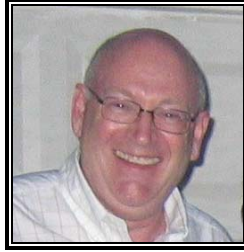
B: Thank you.

J: A few of the family were together for Adele's stone setting. We were talking about you. Jeff, Nancy, Westy, Paul and Marci, Lynn, Fern, my brother [Artie] and me.



Adele Radov

B: Of course, I know all of them. I get along with all of them too.



Jeff Radov



Nancy Radov



Westy Radov



Paul Rogers



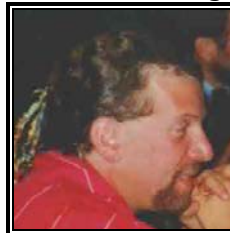
Marci Radov Rogers



Lynn Radov



Fern Radov Rudin



Artie Levin



Joel Levin

J: You get along with everybody. Let me ask you one last thing. Do you remember in the 1920s and 1930s the *sedars* at Cirka and Joe's house. That was the biggest thing that happened with the family every year.

B: I probably was there, but I don't remember anything. My biggest memory is Sunday morning I was over because Morris [J.] Radov, the younger. We were actually twins you know. We were born the same day.

J: But not the same year.

B: The same year.

J: Same year, same day. Wow.



Cirka Radov

B: But Cirka was so religious that, because he was born after sundown, she forced the doctor to make his birthday the 25th. But actually, he was born on the 24th at 8:30 in the evening. I was born at 11:00 in the morning. So I'm the 24th. She forced the doctor, Hassleman, to make it the 25th. Actually, we were twins. [On early family beliefs, see Familiarity, Theology & the World, A108-111].

J: It's false on his birth certificate?

B: Yes. It says August the 25th.

J: She didn't want him born on the *Shabbat*, so she changed it a day?

B: Yes.

J: I appreciate the information. I will send the updated version of the family history to you and Bertha shortly.

B: I'll get to see it?



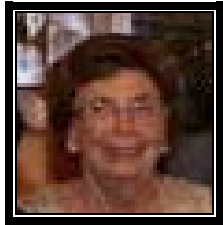
Barney Halperin



Bertha Blau



Barney R. Radov



Clare Radov Levin



Mitzi Radov Kerness



Jack Thompson

J: Yes. You'll get to see. It will have you, Bertha, Barney R. and Betty, Clare, Mitzi, Joseph Mandiberg and Eileen Goldman, Sandy Cohen's sister, Muni's two daughters, Pam and Lynda, and Jack Thompson. If I can manage it, I hope to have Jordan Sakol. It has all six of the living grandchildren. You, Bertha, Clare, Mitzi, Barney R. and Jack Thompson.

The six living grandchildren at the time this history began, of Jacob and his wives.

B: I'm the oldest.

J: Jack is the youngest. There are tapes of two of Joe's sons, Morris [J.] and Barney B., before they passed away. I may take some pages from there.

B: Good. Barney B. had a pretty good memory. Barney Bass, regardless of what was going on, Cherna would sit him down and explain to him what happened and he knew everything about the family.

J: I appreciate you taking so much time.

B: It was my pleasure to help as much as possible.



Wolf, Louis, Barney and Cherna Bass

J: Good talking to you. Happy birthday!

B: Best wishes to your family. Thank you.



Barney & Penny Halperin, Paul Blau, Ida Halperin, Jimmy Blau, Harold & Jacob Halperin
Bertha & Jacob Blau, Farley & Ellis Halperin (Jimmy Blau's Bar Mitzvah - 1963)

IN MEMORIAM

Barney Bass 1919-2003
Louis Bass
Shirley Bass 1924-2007
Wolf Bass 1888-1938
Mona Sheila Bergida 1940-2004
Jack Blau 1917-1983
Menya Carl 1880-1934
Raful Carl 1876-1948
Muni Carl 1913-1995
Sylvia Carl
Morris Carlstein
Beatrice Carol 1914-1978
Bill Carol
Barbara Krames Cohen 1938-2013
Bernard Cohen 1926-1990
Jacob Cohen
Minnie Cohen
Robert Cohen
Alex Davaris 1918-2000
Barney Halperin 1916-2011
Ellis Halperin 1956-2002
Harold Halperin 1890-1974
Ida Halperin 1894-1963
Jack Halperin 1926-1975
Penny Halperin 1924-1993
Barbara Sakol Herman 1929-1961
Gene Kerness 1929-2001
Benjamin Kreiss 1911-1968
Joel Kreiss 1940-2000
Pearl Kreiss 1915-1991
Barry Levin 1953-2007
Mace Levin 1919-2008
Abraham Mandiberg 1891-1963
Arnold Mandiberg 1916-1995
Clara Mandiberg 1896-1987
Dora Mandiberg d. 1919
Beatrice Mandiberg 1906-1981
Flora Mandiberg
Froime Mandiberg
Golde Mandiberg
Helen Mandiberg 1913-2005

Henrietta Mandiberg 1896-1982
Hortense Mandiberg 1920-1996
Jack Mandiberg 1914-2003
Malka Mandiberg
Max Mandiberg
Max (Morduch) Mandiberg 1908-1989
Minnie Mandiberg d. 1918
Moishe Mandiberg
Myrtle Mandiberg 1918-2001
Perle Mandiberg 1922-1995
Perlja Mandiberg
Rachel Mandiberg
Sadie Mandiberg d. 1959
Samuel Mandiberg d. 1963
Bernard Rabelsky
Carlene Rabelsky
Jenny Rabelsky
Morris Rabelsky
Patty Radov Notarious 1943-2005
Adele Radov 1924-2011
Anna Radov 1922-1936
Barney B. Radov 1913-2001
Barney R. Radov 1923-2013
Betty R. Radov
Bernard Radov
Errol Edwin Radov 1941-1941
Esther Radov 1884-1954
Eve Radov 1922-2007
Gustave Radov 1907-1969
Hennyeh Radov
Ida Sarah Radov 1910-1997
Jack Radov 1931-2007
Jacob Radov 1844-1924
Joseph Radov 1884-1957
Luba Radov 1902-1984
Morris J. Radov 1916-2003
Morris P. Radov 1897-1967
Peter Radov 1870-1943
Samuel Radov 1904-1982
Sandra Radov
Sarah Radov 1880-1962

Sheindel Bossie Mandiberg Radov 1853-1936

Noah Barratt Rogers 1986-2014

Faith Sakol 1934-2010

Jordan Sakol 1933-2012

Minnie Sakol 1899-1970

Morris Sakol 1895-1976

Ted Sakol 1927-1996

Lena Smith

Harry Smith

Murray Smith

Chaie Solow

Harry Solow

Barney Thompson

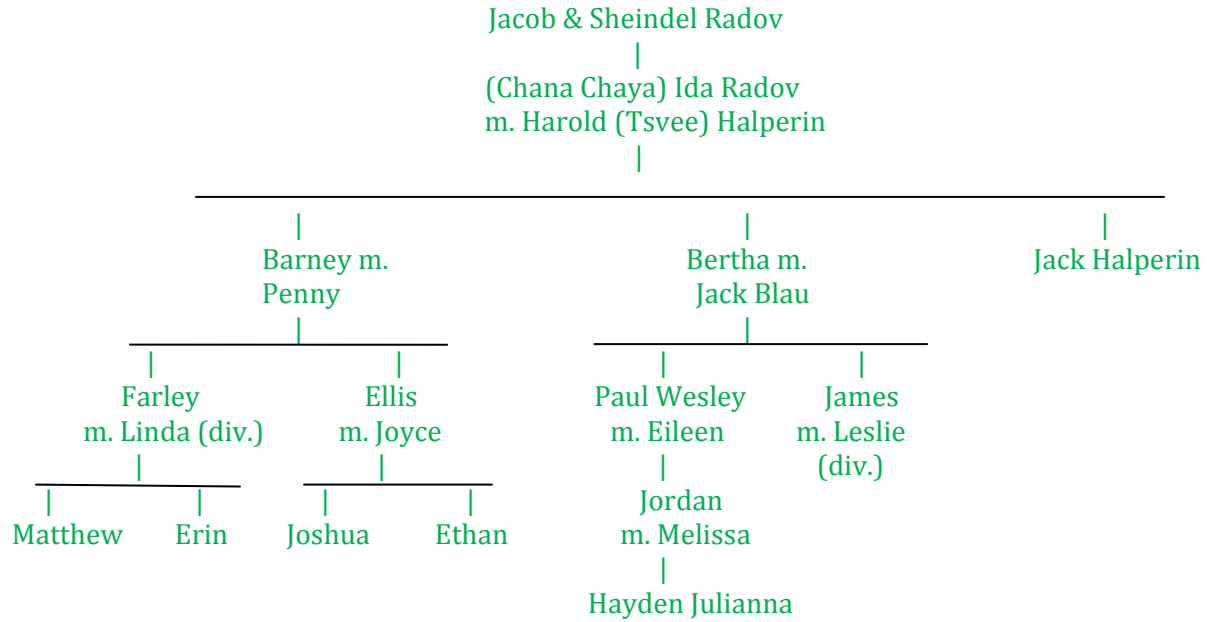
Cherna (Bass) Thompson

Elizabeth Thompson 1926-2007

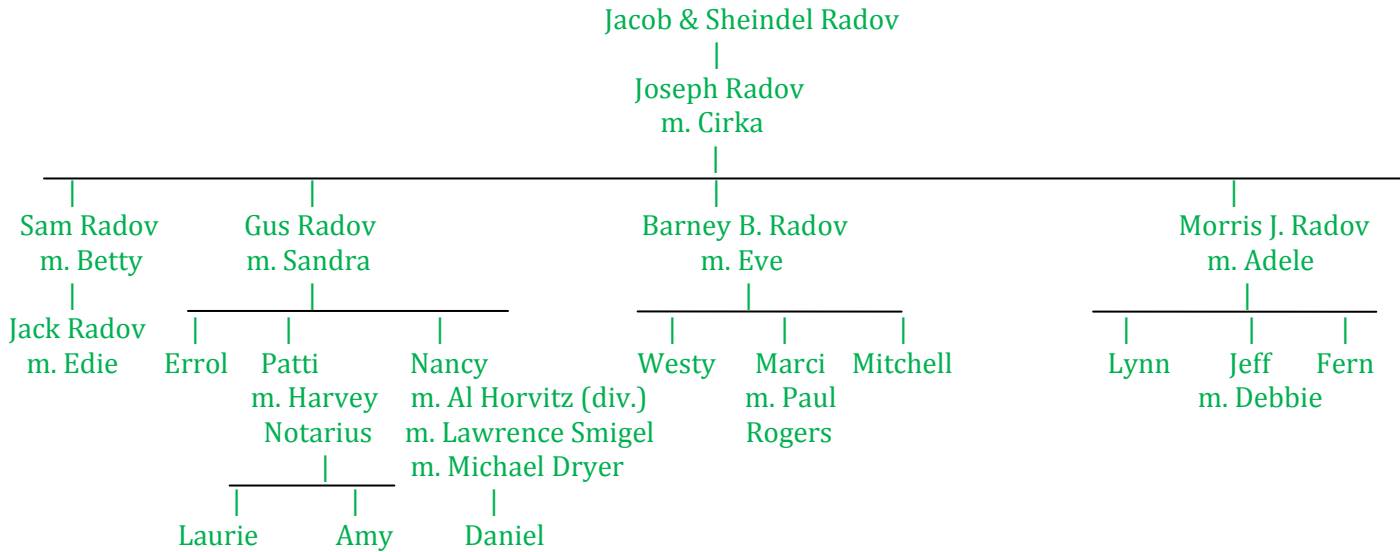
Ida Wasserman

Sam Wasserman

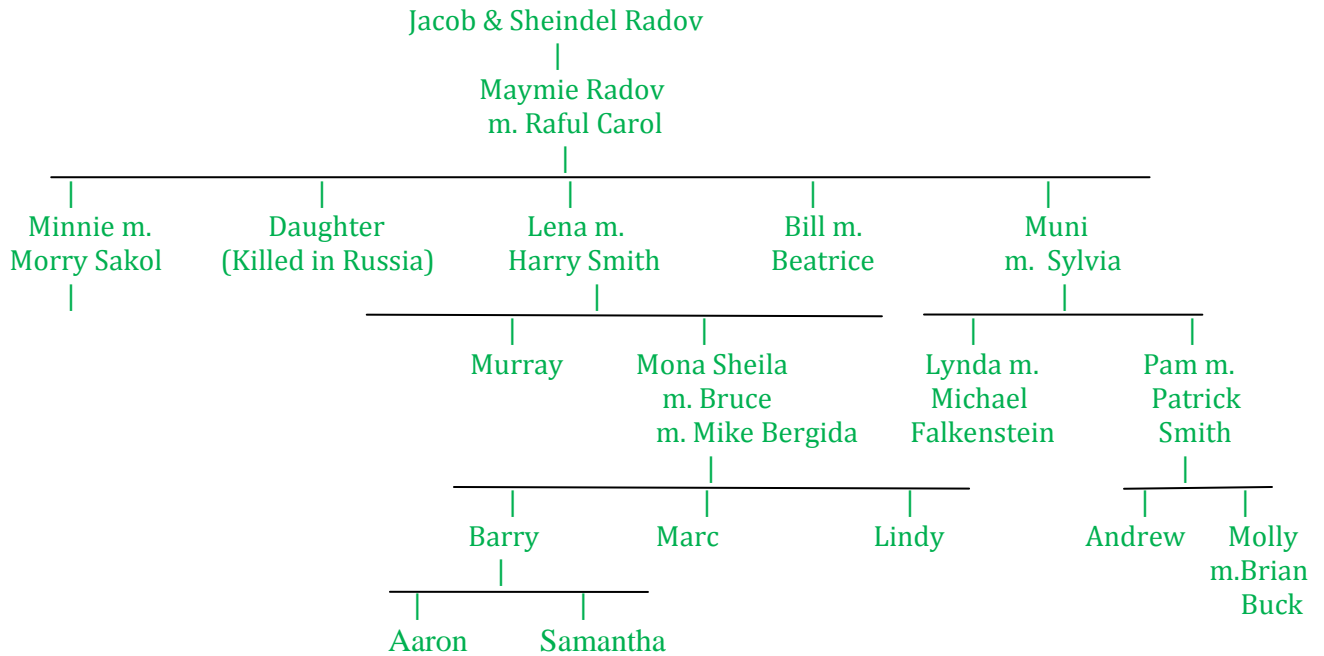
BERTHA HALPERIN BLAU



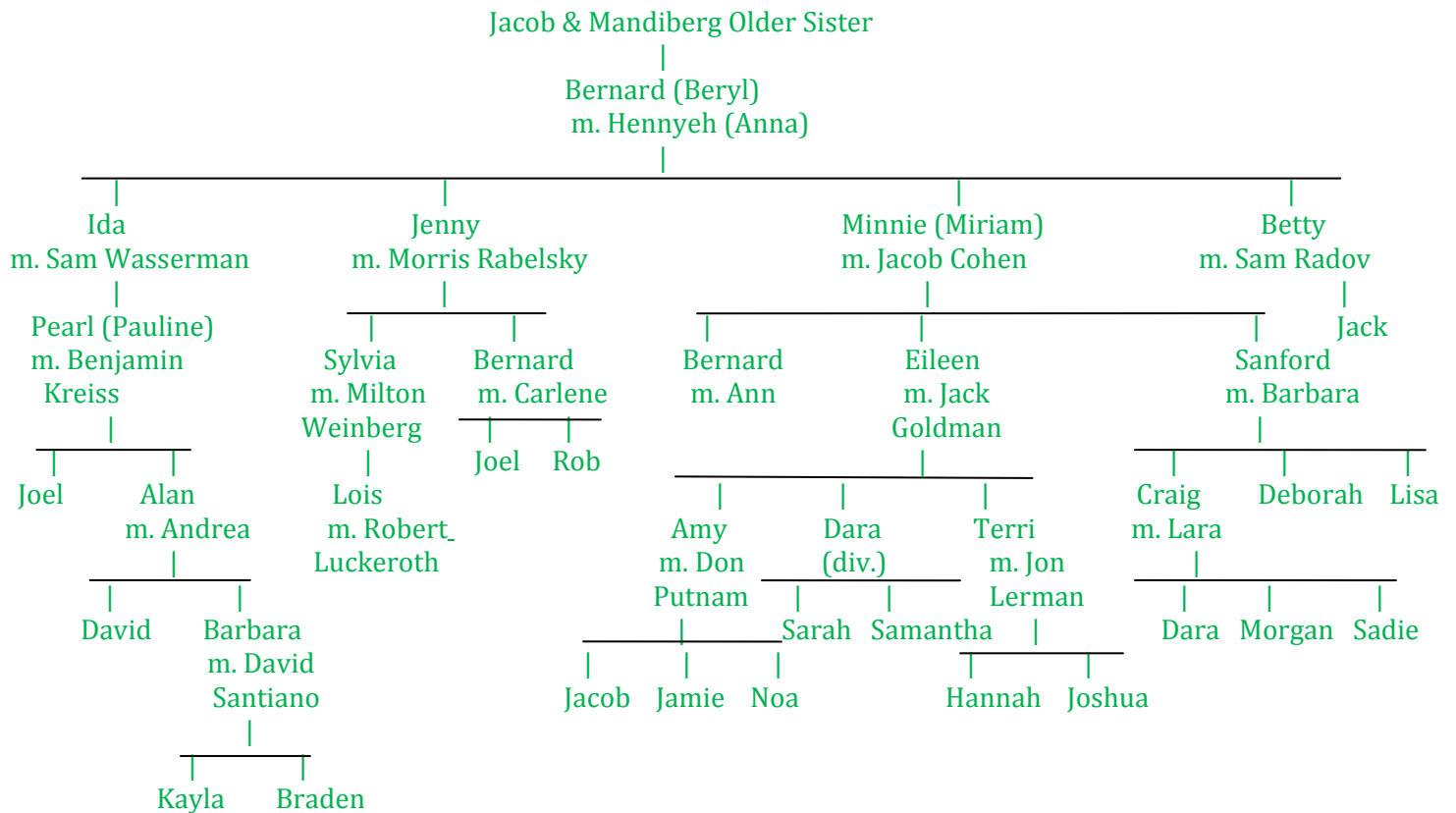
NANCY RADOV DRYER



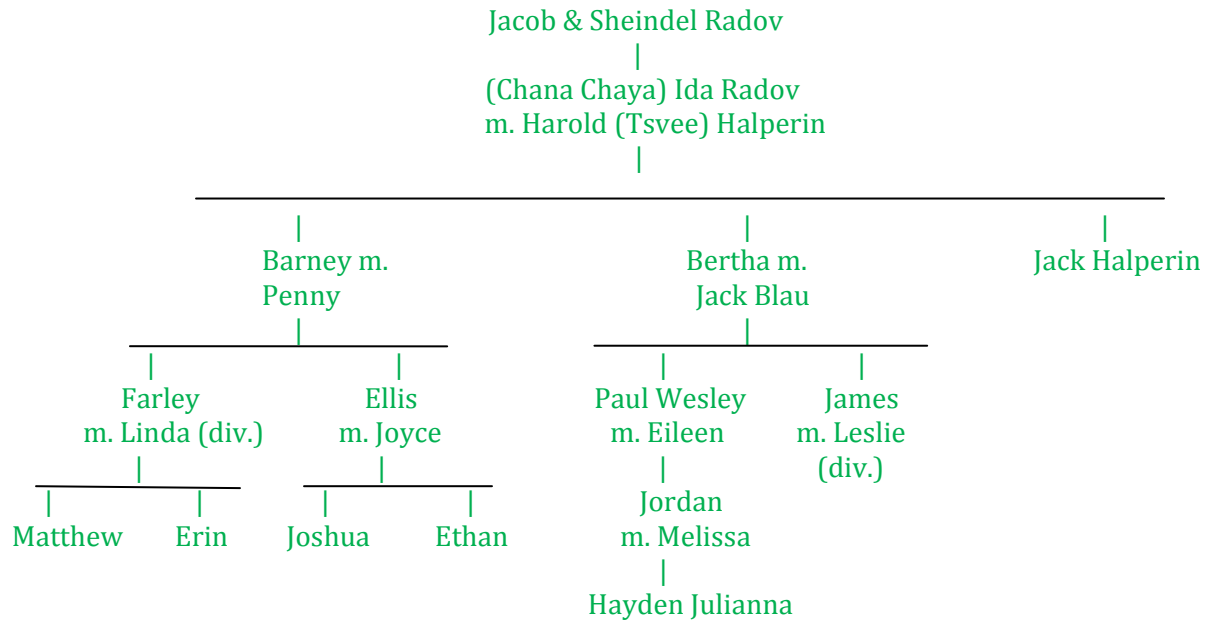
LYNDA FALKENSTEIN & PAM SMITH



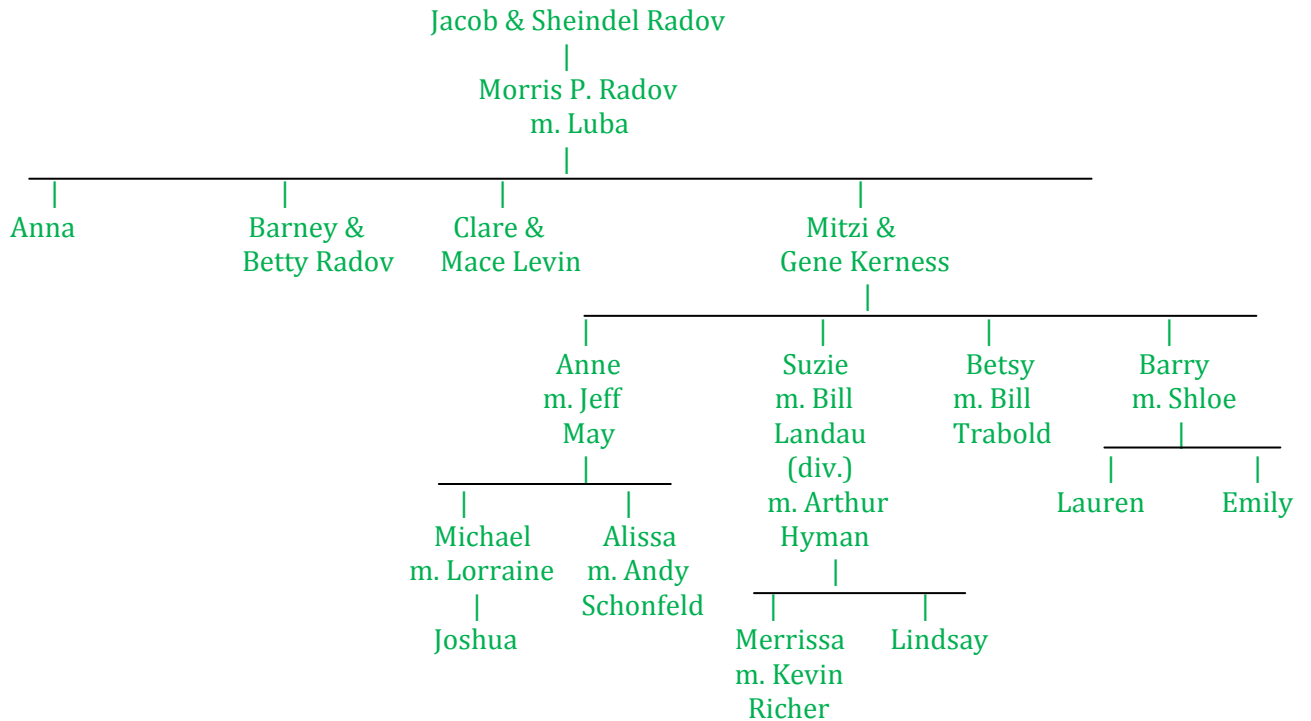
EILEEN COHEN GOLDMAN



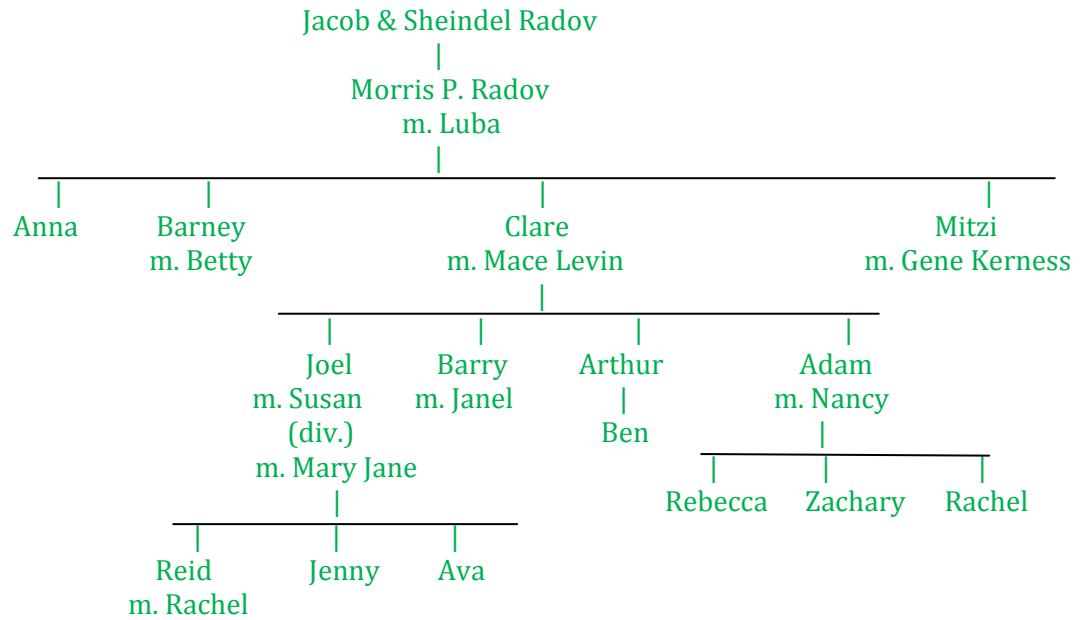
BARNEY HALPERIN



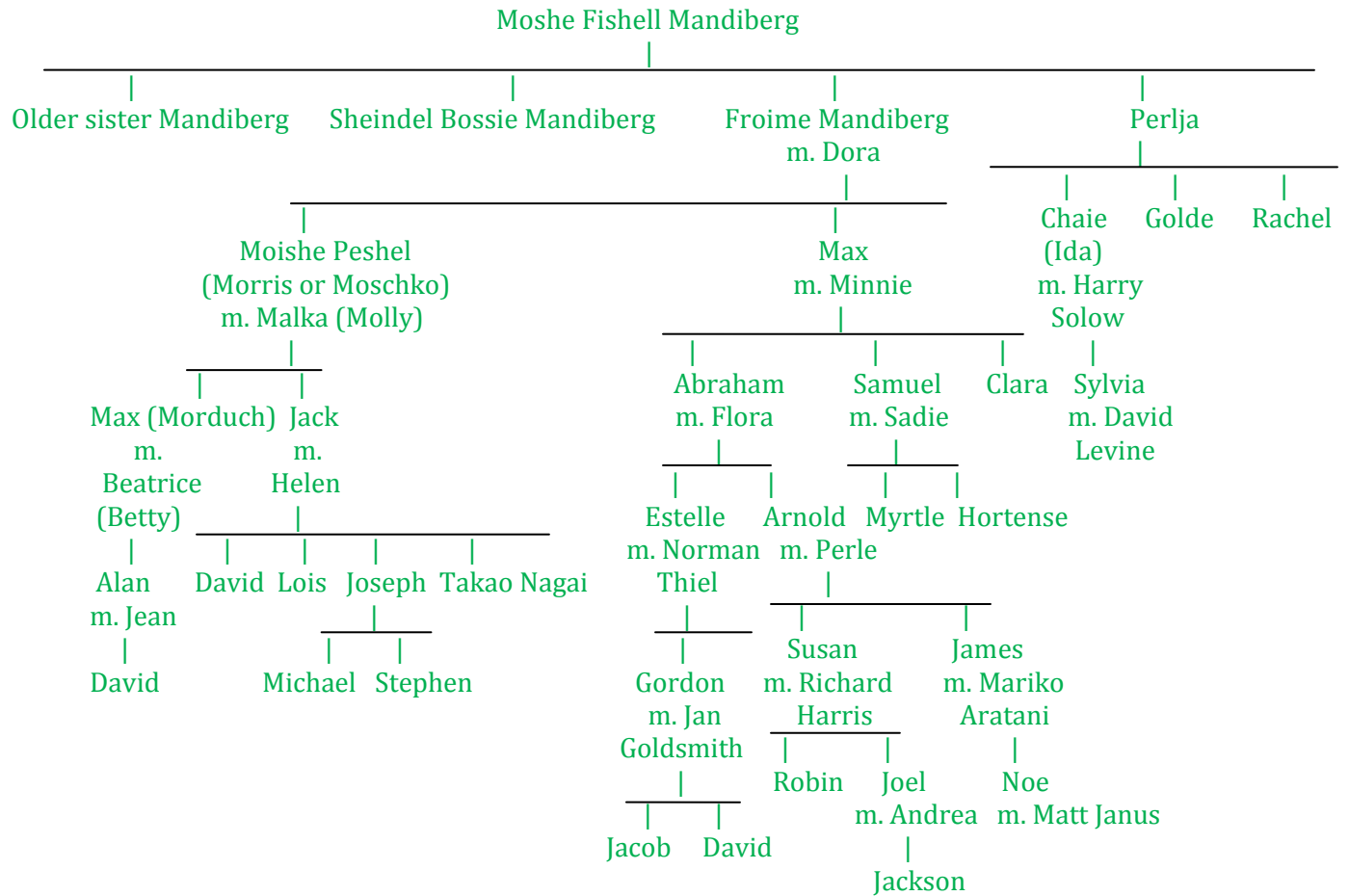
MITZI RADOV KERNESS



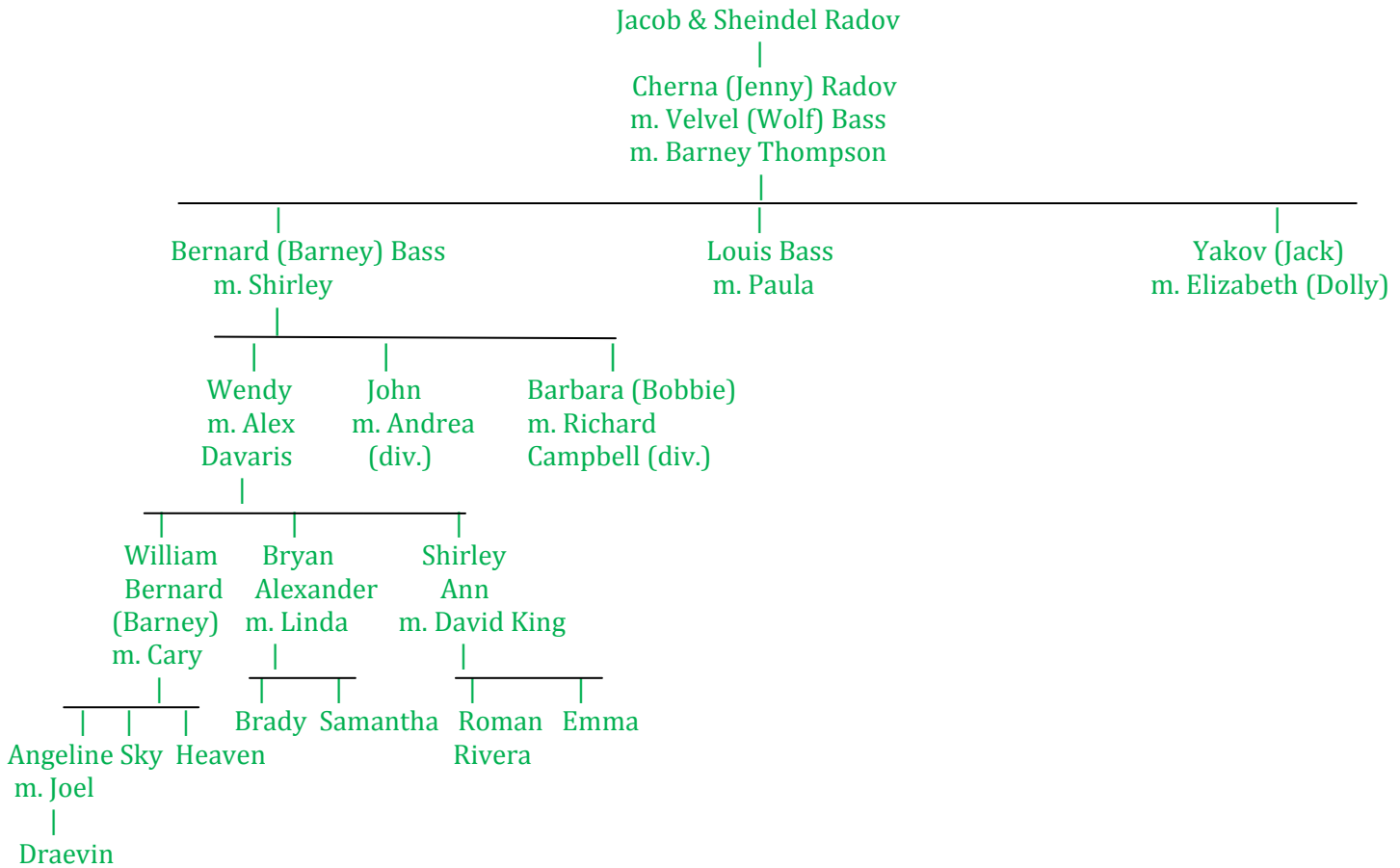
CLARE RADOV LEVIN



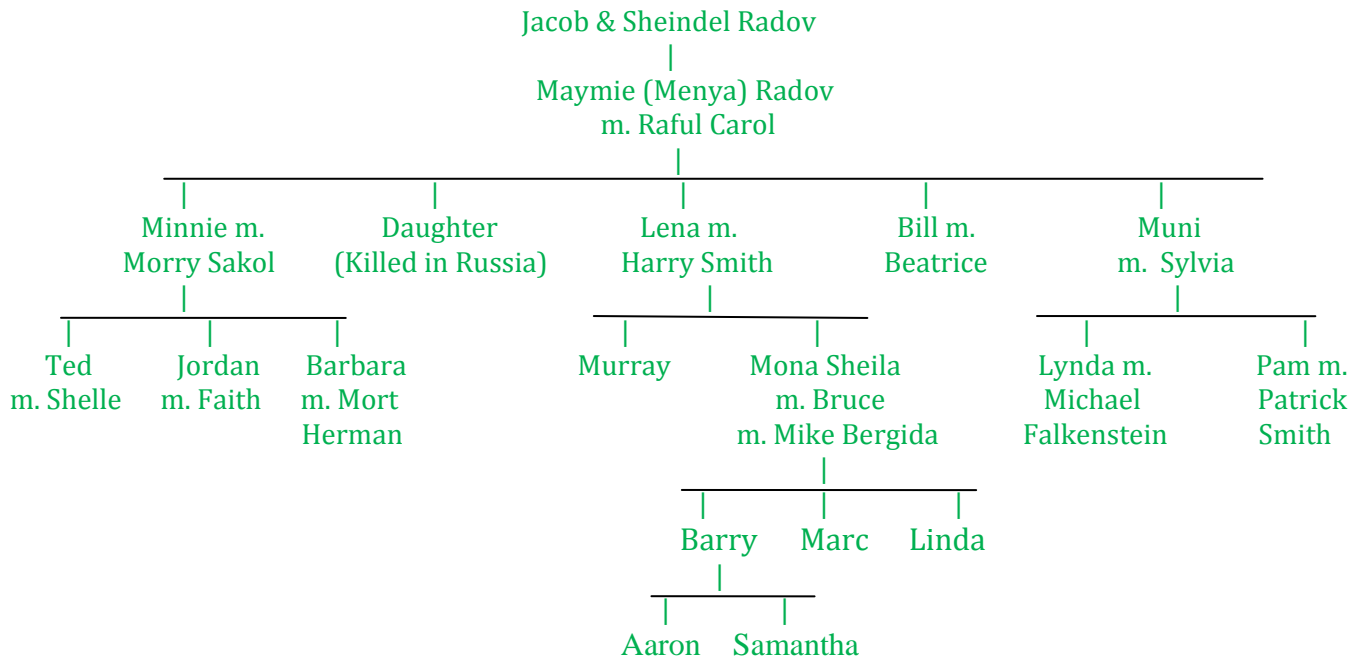
JOSEPH MANDIBERG



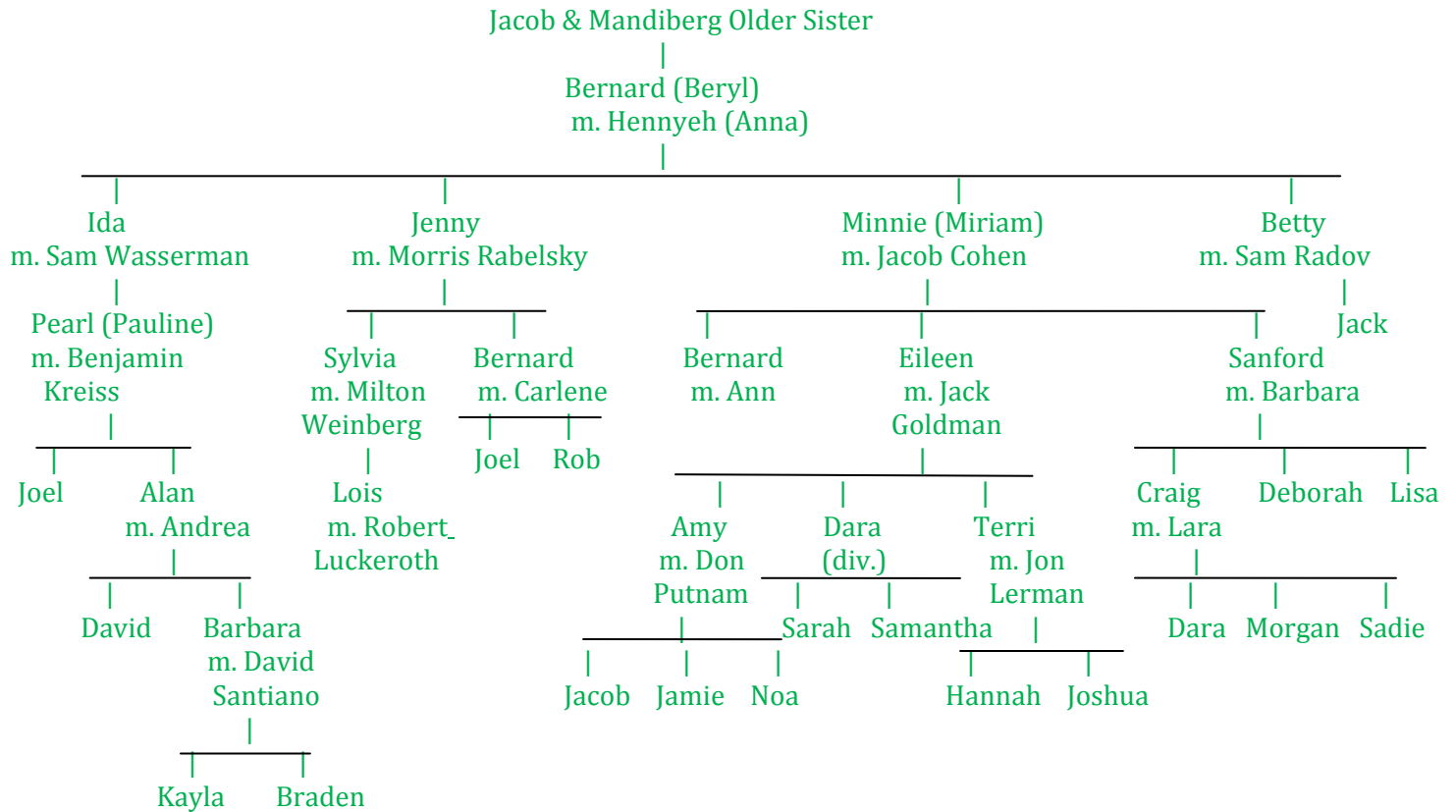
WENDY DAVARIS AND BARBARA BASS



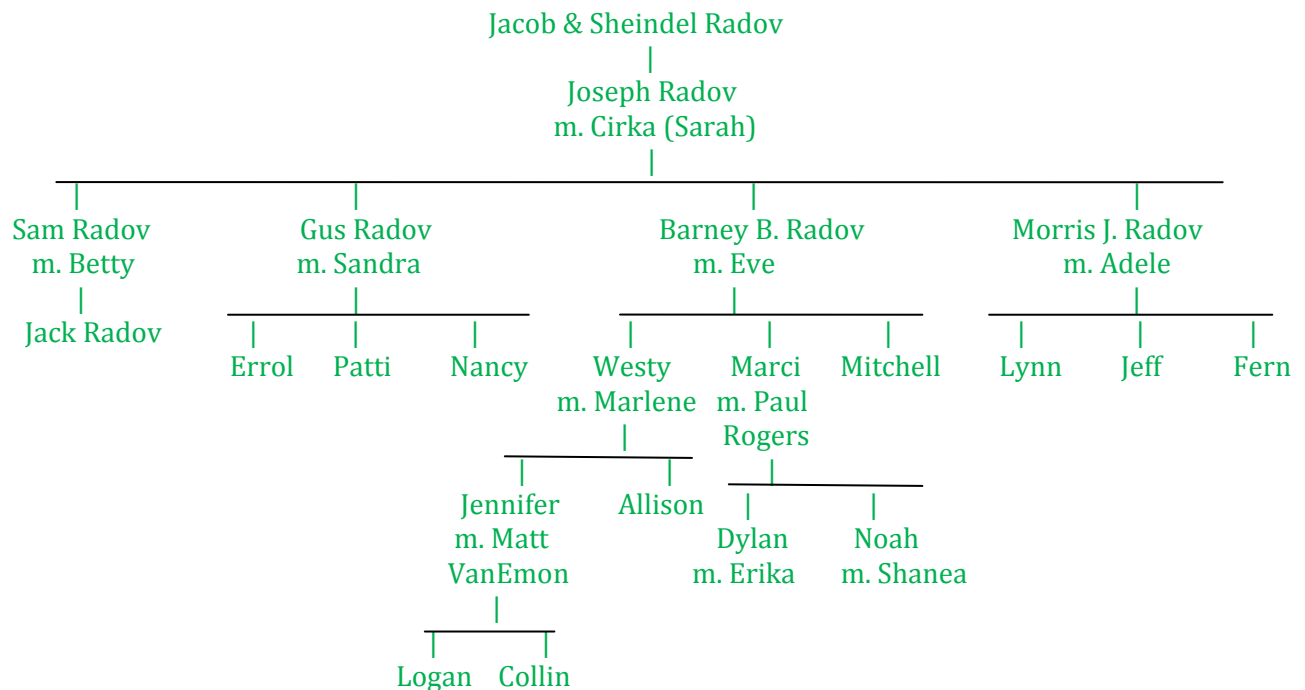
MICHAEL BERGIDA



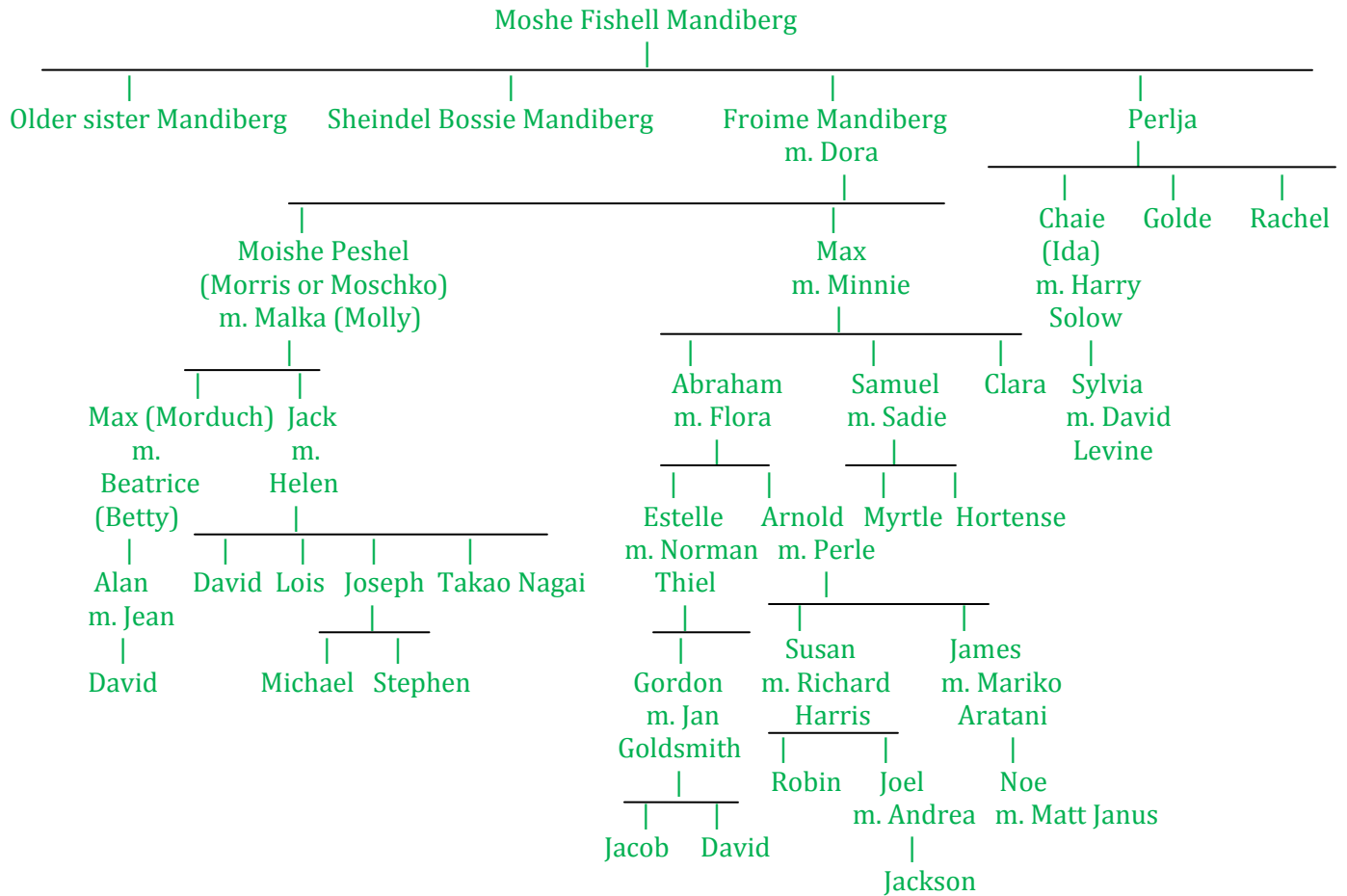
ALAN KREISS



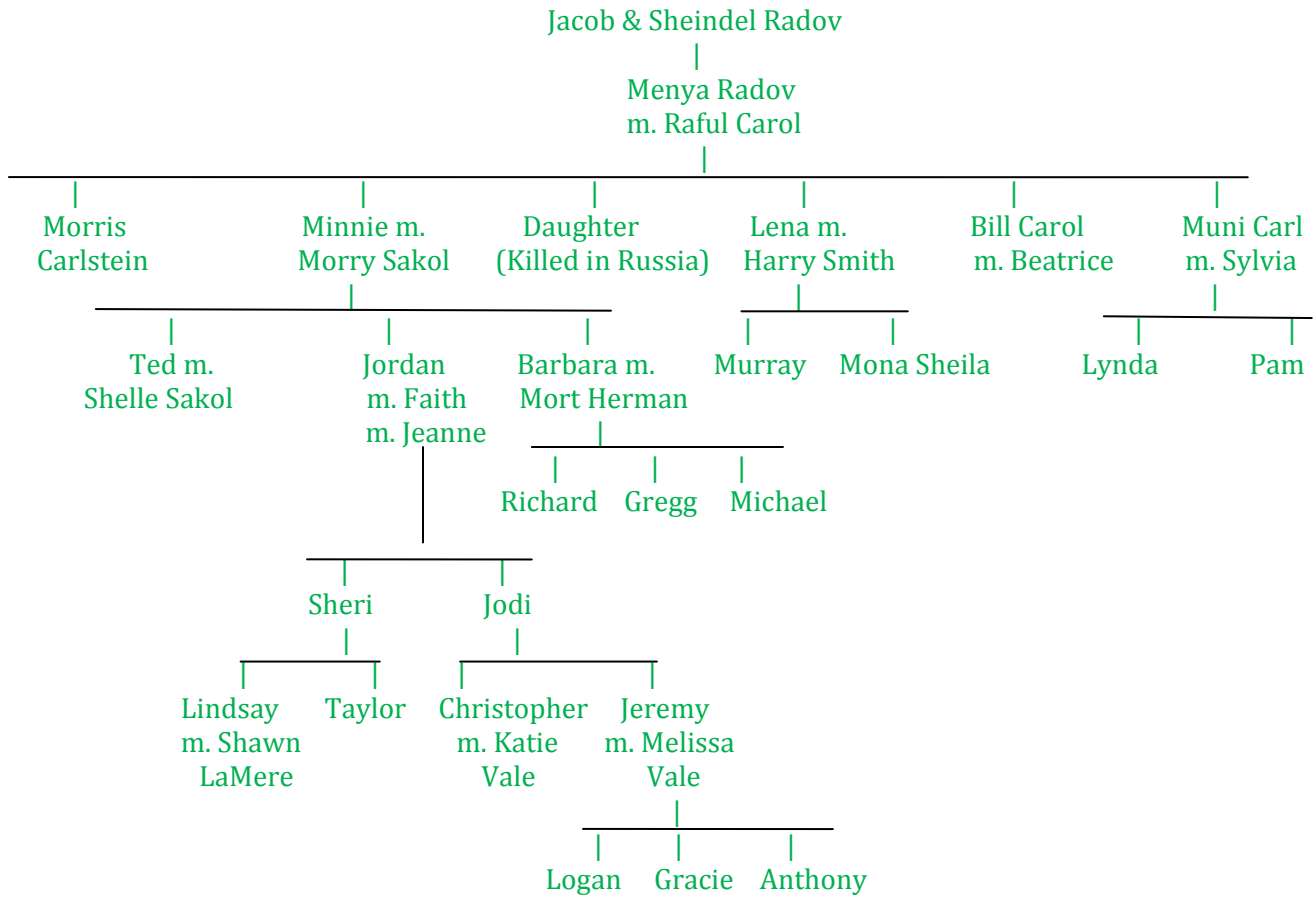
MARCI & PAUL ROGERS
AND WESTY RADOV



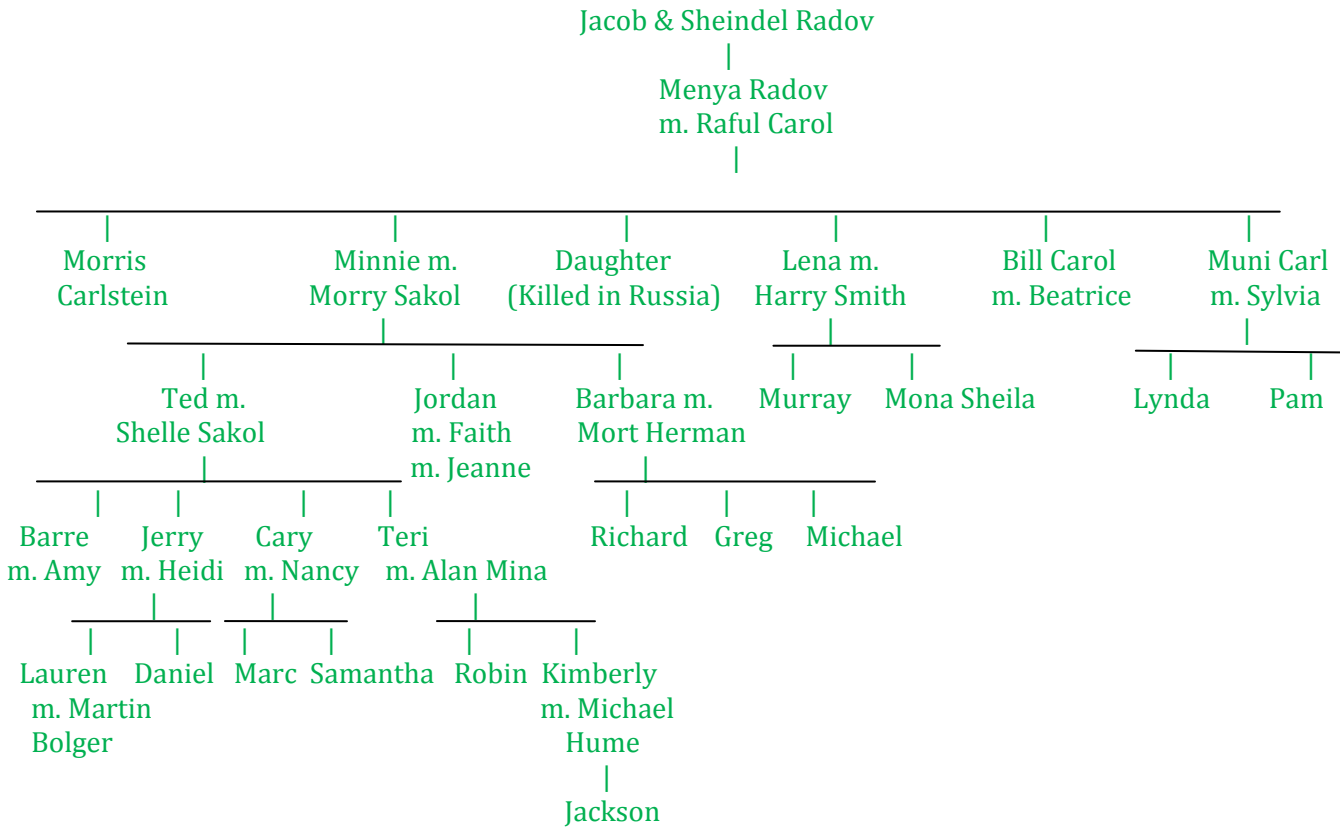
ALAN MANDIBERG



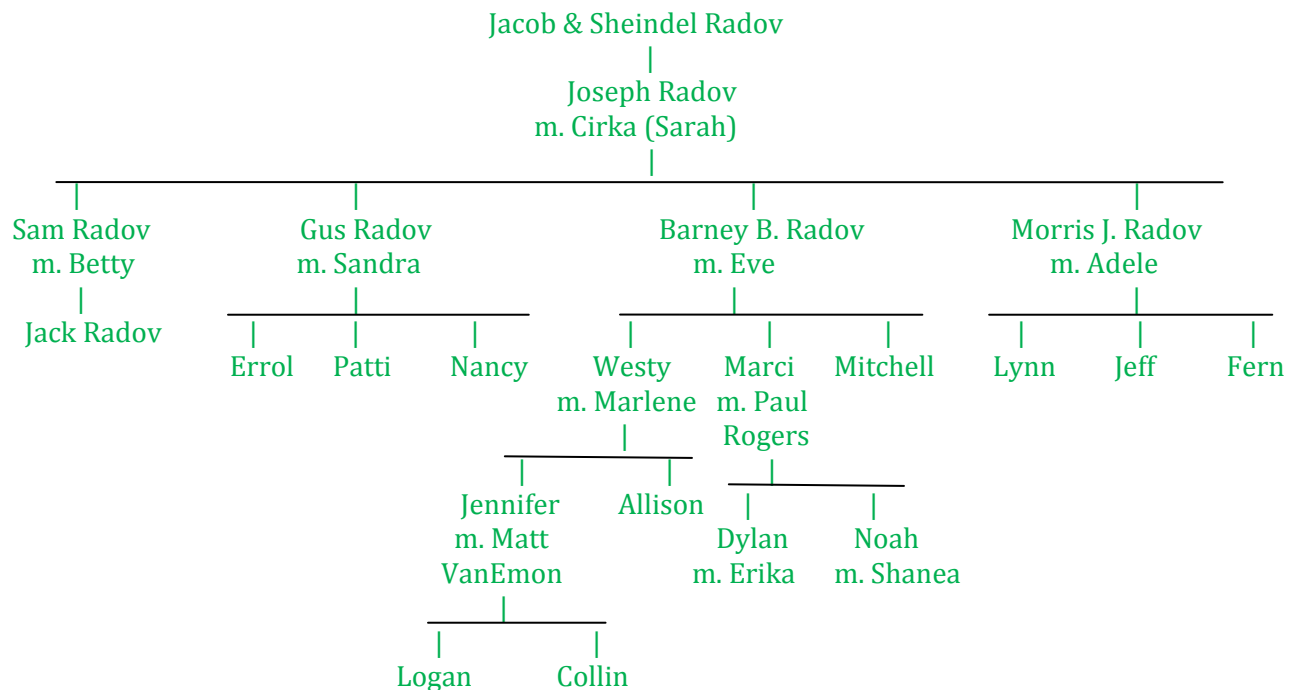
JORDAN SAKOL



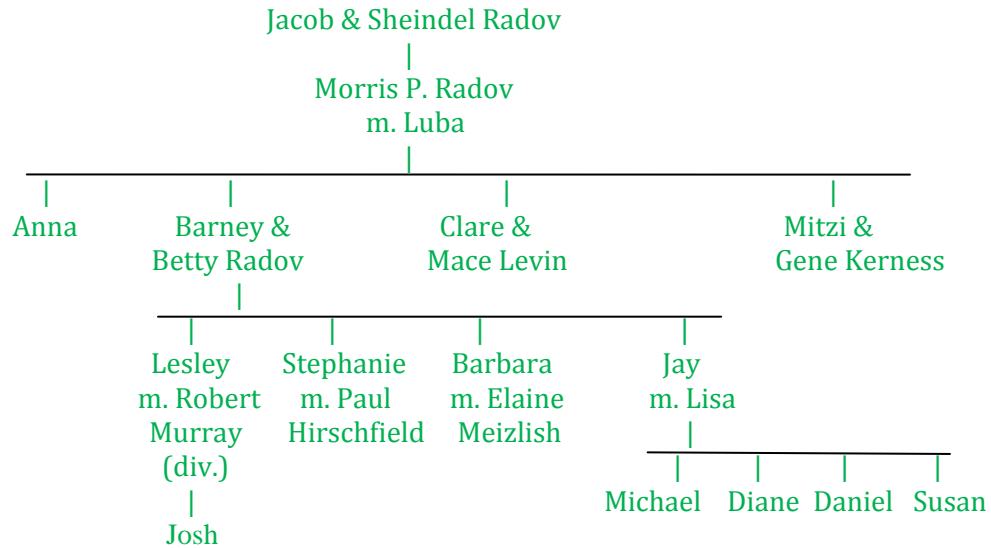
SHELLE SAKOL RADIN



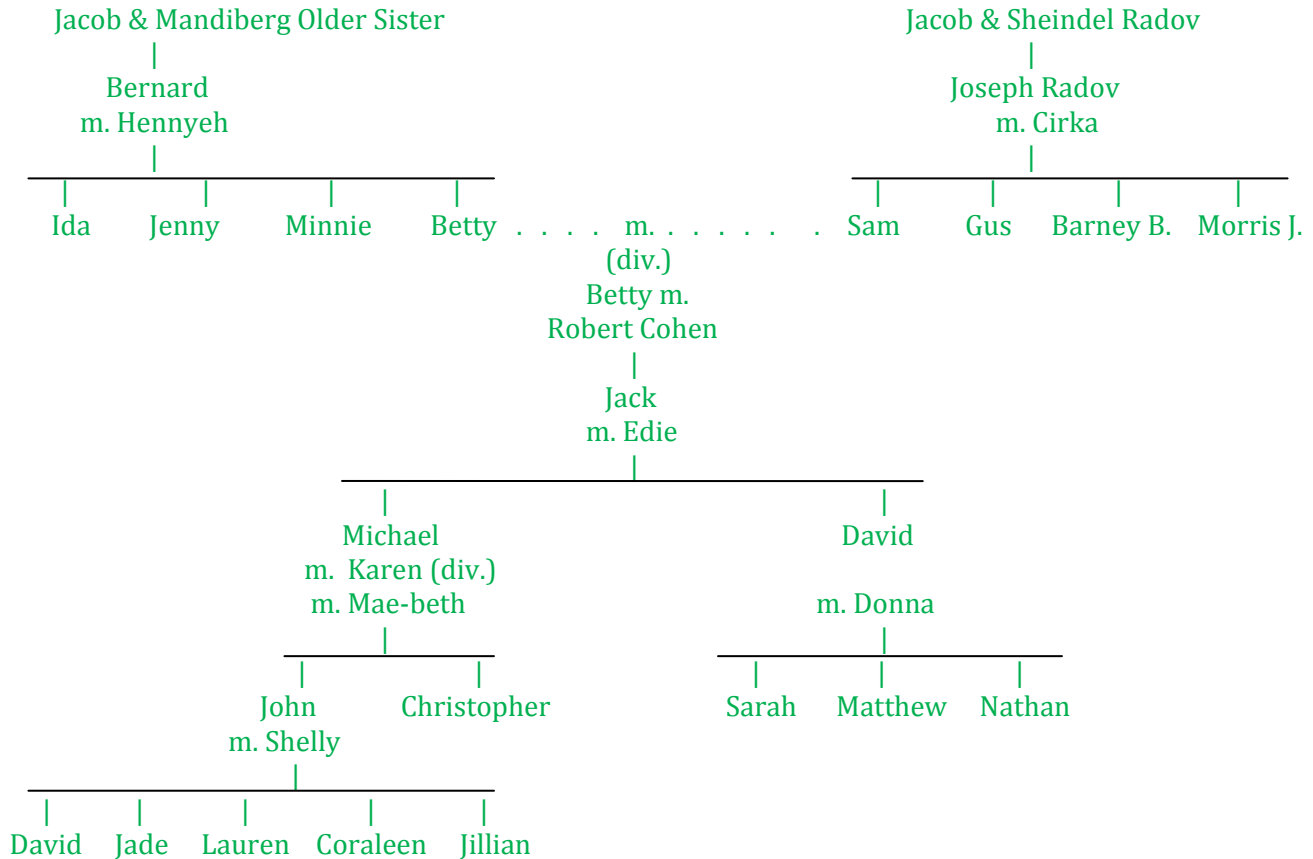
BARNEY B. RADOV



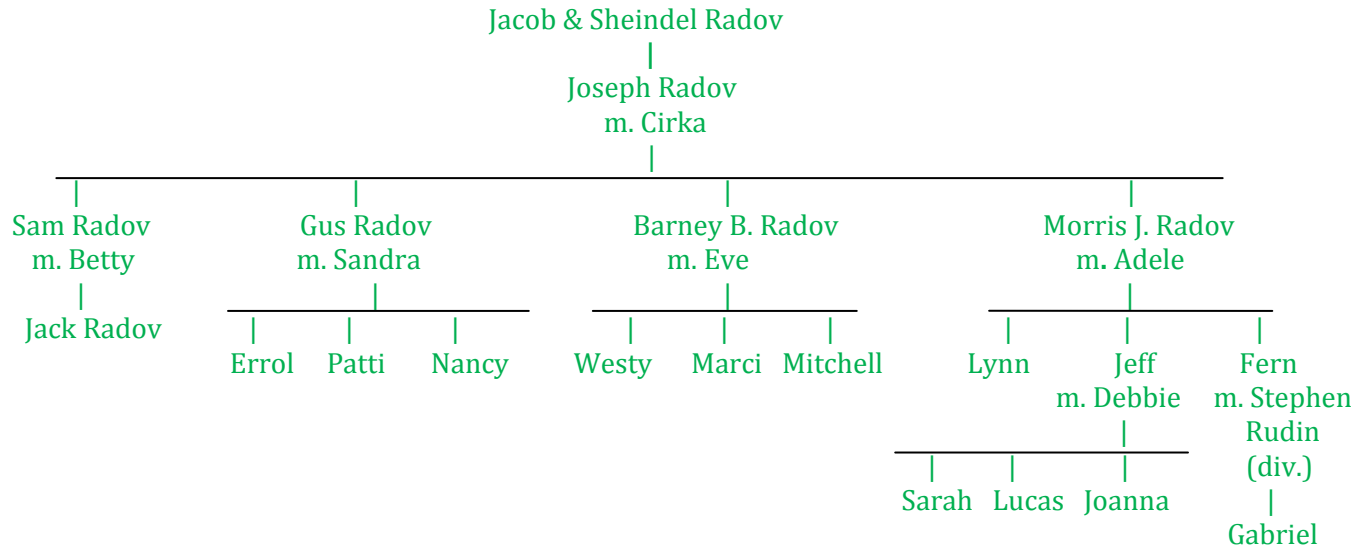
BARNEY R. RADOV & BETTY RADOV



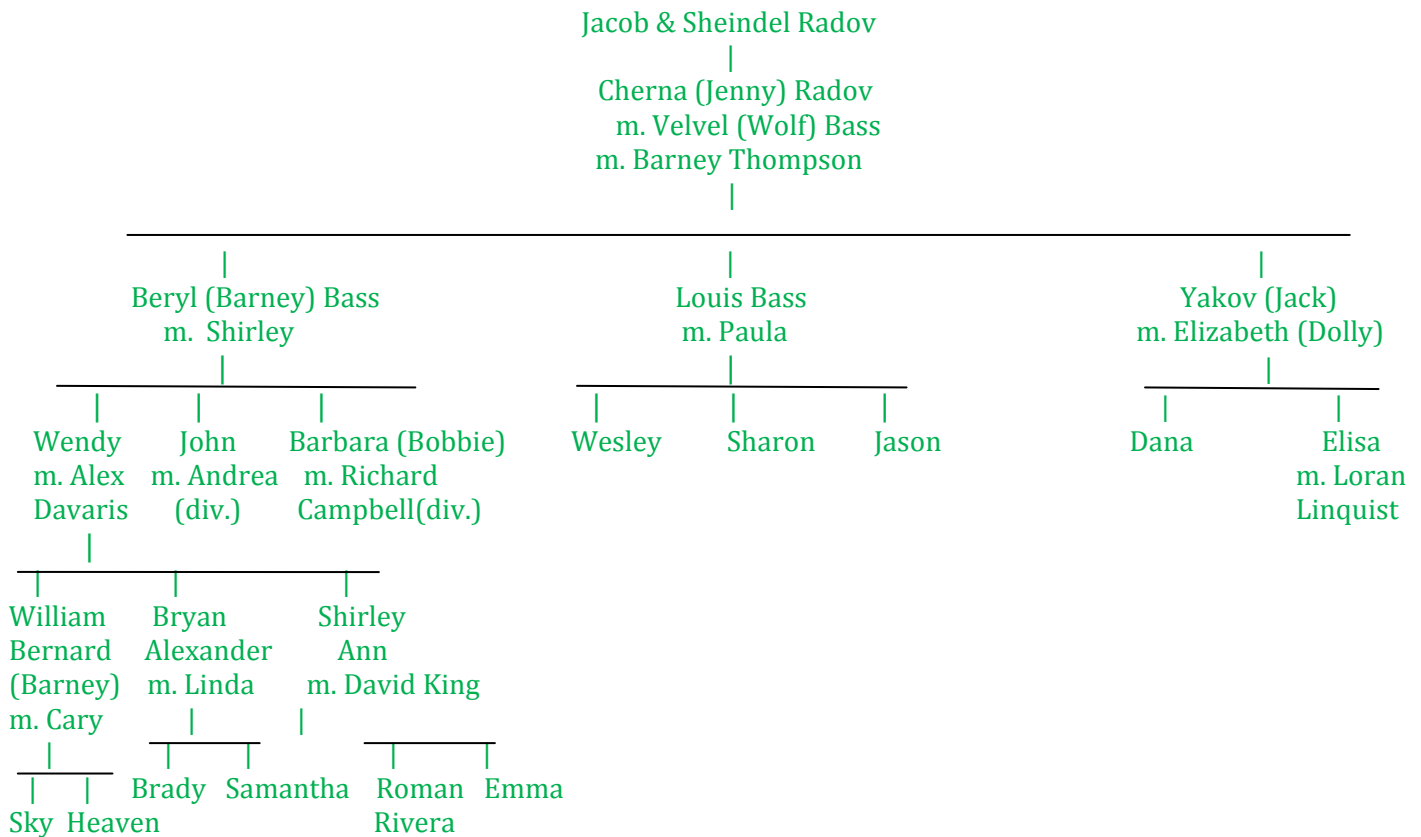
EDIE RADOV



MORRIS, ADELE AND JEFF RADOV



JACK THOMPSON



SUSAN MANDIBERG

