

# *Der Bay*

## *The International Anglo-Yiddish Newsletter*

---

March 2007

Vol. XVII No. 3

---

### **Entertainment Schedule at the IAYC 11<sup>th</sup> Conference**

This is the Fourth in a series of reports on the IAYC XI Conference August 3-6, 2007 at the Marriott Cleveland East Hotel. Each month there will be an update and a report on another phase of this great Yiddish Conference. All the updates are on the Conference website at: <http://www.derbay.org/cleveland/>

There will be highly talented entertainment each evening. During the first and last day of the conference there will be daytime shows.

#### **FRIDAY, AUGUST 3, 2007**

##### **Afternoon Show**

- People's Yiddish Stage: 5 Acts  
The WEVD Yiddish Radio Hour  
The Handlers in Yiddish Humor  
My Favorite Yiddish Songs  
Di Shpilners—Yiddish Skits  
The Yiddish Folksinger

##### **Evening Performance**

- Yiddishe Cup Klezmer Band  
Bert Stratton, Leader
- Kum Lakh Mit Undz  
Reuben & Dorothy Silver

#### **SATURDAY, AUGUST 4, 2007**

##### **Yiddish Songs for Our Times**

- Workmen's Circle National Troupe  
Featuring Adrienne Cooper, one of the most influential international performers of Yiddish vocal music.

#### **SUNDAY, AUGUST 5, 2007**

##### **Klezmer Concert at Cain Park**

Conference attendees will be bused to Cain Park for the 29th Klezmer Concert in the Park.

- Arbeter Ring Klezmer Orchestra  
Director: Norman Tischler, Vocalists:  
Lori Cahan-Simon & Martin Moskow
- Yiddish Swingtette: Featuring, Greg Wall,  
Joanne Borts, & Susan Watts

#### **MONDAY, AUGUST 6, 2007**

The Closing Session will feature group participation in singing and dancing.

- Cantor Kathryn Sebo:  
Yiddish, Broadway and Beyond

Among the 30 lecture/workshops will be performers & vendors who will entertain you, and have materials for your groups back home. They are Adrienne Cooper, Bert Stratton, Hale Porter, Cookie Blattman, Hilda Rubin, "Lil Rev," and Frank & Troim Handler.

##### **Contact Information**

**Chairman: Harold Ticktin, Ph: 216-752-1881**  
**E-mail: [avvocato@peoplepc.com](mailto:avvocato@peoplepc.com)**

**Registration: Pauline Leber, Ph: 216-831-4177**  
**E-mail: [paulsam@adelphia.net](mailto:paulsam@adelphia.net)**

**Program & Vendors: Fishl Kutner,**  
**Ph: 650-349-6946 E-mail [fishl@derbay.org](mailto:fishl@derbay.org)**

# Klezmerquerque 2007 in Albuquerque, New Mexico

by Beth Cohen, Klezmerquerque coordinator

Held in Albuquerque, New Mexico it is "The Southwest's Celebration of Klezmer Music and Dance"—a weekend of concerts, dance parties, classes, and a lunch 'n story featuring world renowned klezmer artists and scholars. The annual event took place February 16-18, 2007 and again was sponsored by Congregation Nahalat Shalom.

Klezmerquerque, featured performances, workshops and presentations with world class Klezmer musicians and dancers. Past guest artists included Joshua Horowitz, Stuart Brotman and Cookie Segelstein (of "Budowitz", "Brave Old World" and "Veretski Pass"), klezmer clarinet virtuoso Margot Leverett (founder of "The Klezmatics"), klezmer flute expert and band teacher Adrienne Greenbaum and klezmer dance masters Erik Bendix, Shulim Zaltman (from Moldova) and Steve Weintraub. "Klezmerquerque" is held each year in February over President's Day weekend.

Returning this year by popular demand was Adrienne Greenbaum, scholar and recording artist of the klezmer flute and associate professor of flute and klezmer ensemble teacher at Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley, MA.

Also back at *Klezmerquerque 2007* was the klezmer dance master Steve Weintraub, who teaches and performs klezmer and East European Jewish dance at workshops around the world. He has been a regular and popular presenter at KlezKamp, Both Adrienne and Steve performed on Friday and Saturday evenings in addition to having taught two workshops on Saturday and one on Sunday.

*The Rebbe's Orkestra*, which is the Albuquerque-based klezmer ensemble, performed on Friday and Saturday evenings and accompanied Adrienne Greenbaum on her pieces.

Featured at the concert on Saturday night was, *Beyond the Pale*, Toronto's critically acclaimed and award-winning 5-piece klezmer ensemble.

The festival opened on Friday with a danced freylekhe Shabbes "service" to the music of *Alavados*, Nahalat Shalom's 5-piece in-house band. Then there was a vegetarian potluck dinner and performances by dancer Steve Weintraub, Adrienne Greenbaum and *The Rebbe's Orkestra*. The music and dance continued with *The Nahalat Shalom Community Klezmer band* and open dancing led by Steve Weintraub and Nahalat Shalom's Yiddish dance troupe *Rikud*.

Congregation Nahalat Shalom's talent includes

**The Rebbe's Orkestra** which performs throughout the southwest, includes our cantorial soloist and music director Beth Cohen (violin, mandolin and vocals), Barbara Friedman (electric bass), Randy Edmunds (guitar) and Debo Orlofsky (accordion). (<http://arnoproductionsnm.com/index.htm>)

**Alavados Holy Days band** is comprised of cantorial soloist Beth Cohen (guitar, violin and vocals) and congregation members Barbara Friedman (electric bass), Jake Zengerle (percussion), with violinists Jeff Brody and Gabrielle Rosen. Since 1999, Alavados has provided accompaniment for our congregational prayers, songs and dances during holidays. All of the musicians are members of Nahalat Shalom's 20 piece intergenerational Community Klezmer band.

**The Nahalat Shalom Community Klezmer Band** is multi-generational and has family groups playing together. Under Nahalat Shalom's cantorial soloist Beth Cohen's direction, this band has a repertoire of music to play for dancing at Freylekhe Shabbes services and at other holiday freylekhs.

**Rikud Yiddish Dance Troupe** began in 2001 under the co-direction of Rabbi Lynn Gottlieb and Erik Bendix. Band and dancers rehearse together on Sundays 2-4 pm, and it's open for the public to join.

Congregation Nahalat Shalom is a spiritual and cultural center for Jewish Renewal in the Southwest. It affirms and supports discovery and exploration of Jewish identity, heritage, and the arts.

Nahalat Shalom is also committed to reviving an earth-centered religious practice that emphasizes the natural elements inherent in Jewish holidays. We value and nurture the creative, spiritual, and intellectual contributions of each member.

We are a vibrant Jewish Renewal community, open and welcoming to all. We cultivate and live our Judaism through worship, learning, dialogue, joyful celebrations, community involvement, arts, music, and dance.

Beth Cohen, Klezmerquerque coordinator  
Congregation Nahalat Shalom,  
3606 Rio Grande Blvd. NW,  
ABQ, NM 87107  
(505) 343-8227 office  
(505) 243-6276 home  
[cohenedmunds@netzero.net](mailto:cohenedmunds@netzero.net)

# My IAYC Teaneck Conference Roommate—Celia Gordon

by Debbie Herman

Meet my last two IAYC Roommates: Celia Gordon and Hilda Rubin. Before that I roomed in Baltimore with Henrietta Baron whose twin brother came down to visit.

Please don't tell my dad, (Fishl) but I have to admit that one of the highlights of the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual IAYC Conference held in Teaneck, New Jersey last year was my roommate, Celia Gordon. We stayed up talking well into the night, every night during the conference. I was fascinated by her life in Toronto. She is an accomplished artist and sculptor who creates entire settings of people engaged in activities. Just for an example, she has a group of characters playing bridge and another of a Passover seder.

These caricatures are on display. They are created out of clay and found objects which an art term multi-media artists use to describe having the good sense of looking around and finding the exact fit for what you wish to express. I would consider my friend, Celia, a great find for me and a perfect match.

I think of her often and was delighted when she called me in Florida. We plan to see each other next month when I am her roommate again in South Florida. Celia was wonderful, and while I feel certain she must have brought clothes for the convention, honestly I can only picture her in pajamas with her head propped up on one elbow on her pillow.

If she plans on getting any sleep, it better be before I arrive and after I leave. I want to take in the pieces she has created that are in her winter home. I have a million questions, since I have just signed up for a caricature doll-making workshop. Her techniques, I expect, will be as varied as all the things we spoke about.

I was preparing for my daughter, Melanie's, wedding and running ideas behind her to incorporate shtetl-wedding ideas. She had some wonderful suggestions. She was a neophyte to the Yiddish conference world and I am blessed that she had the adventuresome nature to sign on without knowing whom she would room with. While I was amazed at what I was hearing, almost every question I asked her was answered with a pause and then some laughter as she spoke about where her inspirations come from.

She is truly an inspiration to me and I know the 3-hour train-ride to see her will go quickly with

anticipation. So, what is a roommate like at an IAYC conference? You share a key some closet space and you turn around and step into their life. When it's the last night before conference is over, you are sad to realize that your world will feel a little smaller without the other person to talk with right in front of you.

Meet My Roommate at the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual IAYC Conference: Hilda Rubin

At the previous conference in Minneapolis, I roomed with Hilda Rubin, of Rockville, MD whom I also thoroughly enjoyed, and I learned so much about what a great Yiddish chapter is capable of doing with committed people. Specifically, I enjoyed hearing about the theatre and drama that she is actively involved with.

Both of these women exemplify the adage that once a person's mind has been expanded to a new idea it can never return to its original size. Somewhere between check-in and check-out, I came away with a personal experience that gave me so much to think about how I could apply Yiddish creatively within my community and artistic expression.

Personal Note to Hilda: Thanks for all the help you gave me when I had a huge headache. I hope you have forgotten the new French words you learned from me at the height of my migraine. You saved me from breaking and entering charges for the hotel rooms adjacent to ours where I would have ransacked their place for aspirin.

**Do You Want an IAYC Conference Roommate?  
Here is what you have to do.**

It is simple, for we have been very successful in matching. After you have completed your conference registration contact Fishl and let him know you want a roommate. Usually he will have or will get a perfect match.

The rooms at the Cleveland Marriott East Hotel are \$115 per night plus tax. Your share will be half, and that is only \$57.50 plus tax. Scholarship winners also get a shared room.

Please be sure you see the IAYC website updates at: <http://www.derbay.org/cleveland/> Each month the front page of *Der Bay* covers another aspect of the upcoming Conference in the Cleveland area, and it also appears under Conference Updates on the website.

## Ode (Owed) to Frank Krasnowsky fun Murray ("Mayshe") Meld, itztiker forzitser

The Seattle Yiddish Group gave Frank a party to show him our appreciation for his part in our founding, vitality and continuity. Entertainer Sheila Fox, leader of The Kosher Red-Hots, rendered some of his favorite Yiddish numbers, accompanied by D'vorah Kost, accordionist. As co-chair of the Group, I spoke in tribute of him. Here is my short talk entitled, "Ode (Owed) to Frank Krasnowsky" is attached.

Frank, how can we thank you enough for the many years you've devoted yourself to keeping the Yiddish language and its music alive, not only here in Seattle but in our surrounding towns -- and even beyond? We in the Seattle Yiddish Group know of contributions you made directly to us; you came in from Duvall without fail to every one of our monthly meetings regardless of stormy weather, floods, and other adversities.

You brought us your songs and stories, your knowledge of the poetry, literature and history of Yiddish theater. Yet, you weren't content with the Yiddish you learned as Mame-loshn at home; you went on to hone it by taking the summer program at the National Yiddish Book Center, the course in Yiddish at Oxford University and attendance at conferences of the International Association of Yiddish Clubs. You shared all those experiences with us, and we were your beneficiaries

But in looking over the record of more than thirty years since you prompted a small core of friends to organize as the Seattle Yiddish Group, I began to realize how active and generous you've been in bringing energy and talent to an amazing circle of audiences. I want to share some of that record with everyone here. Before I'm through, I'm sure they'll agree that you, Frank, deserve being called a "living, Yiddish-loving legend".

Beginning in 1984, you performed Yiddish songs (some of which you also translated into English) at the Northwest Folk Festival, and in 1992, 1994 and 1995, as well, at the Folk Life Festival in the Seattle Center. Until 1999 you were a featured performer at several Ethnic Heritage Fairs. The Crossroads Festival of Lights put you on stage in 1997. You won them over in Sun Valley, Idaho, at the Rocky Mountain Folk Festival. Mostly you shared the platform with the late Sidney Scheuer, partner in your duo, "Chutzpah".

Those were your professional gigs. Your labor of love (the real meaning of "amateur") was your

visits to retirement homes and senior centers. You went to the Kline Galland Home monthly since 1983. You brought memories and tears of joy to the folks at Cascade Vista, Lakeview Gardens, Evergreen Vista, Madison House and Hearthstone House, and to senior centers in Bothell, Carnation, and the Pike Place Market. The Jewish Community Center opened its door to you in 1983.

Your contribution to the ethnic richness of the Seattle area was recognized by grants from the Seattle and King County Arts Commissions, as well as by the Seattle Labor Theater. This brings up another aspect of your record: The songs and poetry of the labor movement, the songs of struggle and protest.

The cassette you made of these deserves special mention. It includes such classics as Ale Brider, Mayn Ruhe Platz, In Kampf, Dem Milners Tern, Arbeter Froyen, Vakht Oyf, and Ot Azoy Neyt a Shnayder. Related are the songs you did with Sydney Scheuer at the Warsaw Memorial Gathering: Zog Nit Keynmol, Undzer Shtetl Brent, not to mention your "Yiddish Songs of Hope and Defiance" performed at Whitworth College and the Ann Frank Exhibit in Portland.

There's another side, Frank, which I must mention: Your acting and directing during the time you were a member of Actors Equity; You performed 25 or more roles with the Seattle Civic Light Opera, Center Stage and other companies. Notable plays were Got Fun N'koma; you were the defending angel in Bontshe Shveig. I was proud to join you in "Yiddish Lives!" in 1996; you were the script writer, narrator and director and we sold out a four-hundred-seat house in 1996 at the Seattle Museum of History and Industry.

Perhaps the best gift you gave us all is what you did to help develop some new, young Yiddish performers, two of whom, Sheila Fox and D'vorah Kost, are here today to play and give you "koved".

Frank, I've spoken of gifts you've given us. You have been blessed. That's best summed up by Paul Buckley when he said: "A wonderful voice, sometimes soft and tender, sometimes booming and boisterous, but always heart-full." Although you'll be in Portland, you'll continue to bring insights and pleasure. And, for us, we'll have memories of our laughter, tears, and the conviction that we are all "brider un shvester"-- a theme that you expressed so well over all these years.

## Carole Stein Writes from Eugene, OR

I would like to thank you for your long dedication to Yiddish Clubs. We are in our 13-14th year, and have had continual bimonthly meetings all that time. I was the organizer, although I do not speak Yiddish well. My daughter, Sarah Stein, was the instigator for this club forming. (She is now Professor of History and Jewish Studies at the University of Washington).

I have managed to get transliterated materials, and recently, with the addition of a new member, we have been reading in the original language. We would like to receive IAYC materials in category A, B and C—in other words, all of your offerings. We greatly appreciate everything that IAYC has sent in the past. I would like the e-mail address for our club to now be in my name, carolestein@hotmail.com.

Even though we are in Oregon, it may not surprise you to know that most of our members, town folks, and professors from the University of Oregon, went to public schools in New York City. So the evenings we meet are not only about Yiddish, but also about commonly shared memories of New York, Chicago and Los Angeles as related to the Jewish community.

## Sam Levy Writes

Many thanks for sending me the February issue of *Der Bay*. It was a pleasure to read. The contents weren't a complete surprise to me because Dovid Kunigis's e-mail got here ahead of the post. Still, it gave me particular pleasure especially in seeing Dovid's translation of Mordke's Tsanin's passionate article because it was truly a historic piece which otherwise might never have been accessible to English-speaking Jews.

Dovid deserves credit for bringing it back to life. I'll bet there's a wealth of wonderful material of that kind that could use his talents and love of Yiddish. In my jaded view, politicians, old and new prefer to hide their sins—not expose them.

I was also pleased to read Jerry Cohen's comment on seeing the name of his late mother-in-law Manya Lipshitz mentioned in my article. The remarkable story of her experiences together with a group of young teen-agers who literally organized and ran a Jewish school for themselves in the former S.U., and wrote their own journal plus the chance recovery of her original manuscript was a beautiful read.

Permit me to correct an error in my reply to Martin Jacobs re my article on the suppression of Yiddish. Carl Rosenberg, editor of the Canadian journal Outlook can be reached at: [cjoutlook@telus.net](mailto:cjoutlook@telus.net)

## Davka

"Davka: Eretz yiddish vetarbuta" ("Davka: Yiddishland and its Culture") edited by Benny Mer, in Hebrew and Yiddish. \$21 one-year subscription including shipping, 2X a year, ISSN: 1565-8198.

"Davka is a Hebrew-language magazine that explores the culture of Eastern Europe Jews," says editor, Benny Mer, an author and translator. To subscribe: The Hebrew University Magnes Press [sales@magnespress.co.il](mailto:sales@magnespress.co.il) Tel: +972 2 658 6660

The editorial board has historian David Assaf, author Haim Be'er, & literary critic Avner Holzman. Davka, pronounced davka in Talmudic Hebrew, with the accent on the second syllable, is davka in modern Hebrew, with the accent on the first syllable. This term, means "precisely this way," connotes defiance ("just because") pronounced davka.

A quote on the Internet regarding the magazine: "Those wishing to get an impression of Yiddish culture should look at Davka, a new journal that deals with Yiddish culture, which means Yiddish culture in its widest sense—literature, film, music but also the daily life of Eastern European Jews."

## Congregation Shalom Vinkl

For the second time our Congregation Shalom Vinkl in Milwaukee, WI held a Gastronomical Yiddish "Tepl Mazl"—a pot luck luncheon. Fifty-one of our members brought their favorite dishes; herring dishes, chopped liver, gefilte fish, gribenes, kugels, stuffed cabbage, brisket, varnishkes and kashe, mandelbreyt, strudel and more. With a committee headed up by my wife Reggie, this extravaganza brought almost 100 members. Ilya Vernik and Reuben Kinkulkin presented a program of Yiddish music. If any Yiddish club wants to have an afternoon of fine dining and a short program, this is your ticket. Lots of work, but A LOT OF FUN!! I'd share this idea with anyone contacting me.

The clubs don't share ideas with others. We are looking for new ideas for our monthly meetings. We wish to share other ideas. Our attendance shows that we are doing something right. So let's all share. Our vinkl would not be where we are without the ideas that came from Barbara Goldstein, and Fishl. We celebrated our sixth anniversary, and still growing! **Dink Holzman** [papadink@aol.com](mailto:papadink@aol.com) at 414-352-3884 8950 N. Fielding Rd. Milwaukee, WI 53217

\*\*\*\***Roz Baker is presenting a workshop, at the IAYC confrence in Cleveland, on sharing Yiddish club ideas. Call her at: 612-377-5456**

## YIVO frilingkursn

Der Maks Vaynraykh-Tsenter bam YIVO leygt for di vayterdike frilingkursn: Ale klasn kumen for in YIVO. Ir muzt zikh farshraybn in foroys.

Dr Khave Lapin (Kvinser kaledzh)

Loshn un shteyger

3 dinstikn, 6:45-8:15 in ovnt

Februar dem 27tn, marts dem 13tn un 20stn

Eve Jochnowitz (NYer universitet)

Yidishe kulinare landshaft

3 donershtikn, 6:45-8:15 in ovnt

April dem 12tn, 19tn un 26stn

Dr Hershl Glasser

Yidishe etymologies

3 dinstikn, 6:45-8:15 in ovnt

May dem 8tn, 15tn un 29stn

### Courses at YIVO Spring 2007

#### YIDDISH LANGUAGE AND LIFE

Instructor: Dr. Chava Lapin (Queens College)

Discover how Yiddish reflects and shapes Jewish life.

Class conducted entirely in Yiddish.

3 Tuesdays, 6:45-8:15 P.M.

February 27, March 13 and 20

Tuition: \$90 / \$75 (YIVO members)

#### YIDDISH GASTRONOMIC LANDSCAPES

Instructor: Eve Jochnowitz (NYU)

Yiddish and food? a great combination.

Class conducted entirely in Yiddish.

3 Thursdays, 6:45-8:15 P.M.

April 12-19-26

Tuition: \$90 / \$75 (YIVO members)

#### YIDDISH ETYMOLOGIES

Instructor: Dr. Hershl Glasser (YIVO)

Learn everything you wanted to know about where Yiddish words come from.

Class conducted entirely in Yiddish.

3 Tuesdays, 6:45-8:15 P.M.

May 8-15-29

Tuition: \$90 / \$75 (YIVO members)

Address: 15 West 16 St., New York NY 10011-6301

For further information call 212-294-6138

## A Pen Pal from the Netherlands

Sem van Gelder, [semvangelder@pianowereld.nl](mailto:semvangelder@pianowereld.nl)

After I contacted you I got reservations about the whole thing. On *Der Bay's* site I read a contemptuous statement about Jews who speak 'daytshmerish' and I am afraid that's exactly what I do.

In The Netherlands almost no one can speak the 'real Yiddish', apart from a small group around the journal 'Di grine medine' (which is now published entirely in oysyes). In our country up to the 20th century Jews always spoke 'West-Yiddish' (according to German expert Salcia Landmann), i.e. Yiddish without any Slav influence. So, no 'bopkes', 'nudnik' or 'farblonzjert' with us.

Although I have a few good books on Yiddish (a.o. Feinsilver, *The Taste of Yiddish*), my Yiddish vernacular is mostly made up of many words and expressions my parents used (for instance I use words such as a lewaye, a matzeiwe, shivve sitzen, an almone, jorzajt etc). Therefore I fear that I will remain an outsider and that does not attract me. Could you perhaps shed some light on this?

Sem van Gelder

(60, married before; now relationship with daughter (39) of an older cousin who hid from the Nazis together with my parents. Two own children around 30, stepfather of two girls now.) Co-publisher of a nationwide piano journal, jazz and classical buff, chess fan, admirer of Saul Bellow, Bernard Malamud, Philip Roth, Isaac Singer, Krishnamurti, Nietzsche, Horowitz, Glenn Gould, Michelle Pfeiffer, Marilyn Monroe, Mary Tyler Moore (I am getting old!), Mohammed Ali, soccer/football etc.

## Two New Yiddish Clubs in Kansas

Eileen Miller, Dir. Resident Services, Vlg. Shalom

Our Wednesday 3pm Yiddish group came up with a name! They liked your suggestion of the Kansas Knakers! The Tuesday conversational Yiddish group will get back to the task of naming their group at their next meeting..

A project of the Wednesday group is working on a translation of Goldilocks and the 3 bears. Once they are finished with translation they plan to go ahead and act it out.

We did visit today the sample newsletter you sent. On the back page you had the TUM TAM article. Peculiar to most of our group today were the following 2 expressions/ words: Strakadur—one of the members of the group said her mom always used it to describe someone who talks a lot.

A greps aroys, a gezunt arayn – a belch comes out and good health in...used by a member's mom when burping a baby. Are these familiar to you or others?

If you're ever in the Kansas City area please do come over.

## "Purim in Khelm"

The National Yiddish Theatre - Folksbiene presents  
Purim In Khelm:  
by Motl Didner & Miryem-Khaye Seigel

An originele yidishe muzikalishe komedye  
Prezentirt mit englishe un rusishe iberkeplekh)

Fir fraye forshtelungen:

- 1) Tuesday, February 27 - Hunter College, Kaye Playhouse - 7 PM. Free tickets: 212-772-4148
- 2) Tuesday, March 6 - Lehman College, Lovinger Theater, - 2 PM. Free tickets: 718-960-8025
- 3) Wednesday, March 7 - Queens College, Colden Auditorim - 2 PM. Free tickets: 718-793-8080
- 4) Thursday, March 8 - Brooklyn College, Whitman Theater - 2 PM. 718-951-4600

Info: Folksbiene 212-213-2120  
<http://www.folksbiene.org>

Ikh hof az ir vet bayzayn. (I hope you can make it.)

## Linette "Lin" Schlossman o"h

Born Linette Kerzner. Oct. 3, 1930, in Brooklyn, NY, she married Irwin S. Schlossman in 1951, and moved to Sarasota in 1994 after 28 years in Cincinnati, Ohio. She graduated from Erasmus High School in 1947.

After earning a degree at the Fashion Institute of Technology, she joined Wamsutta as a textile designer. At the University of Cincinnati, she earned a bachelor's and then a master's degree in Education (with a specialty in reading). She was awarded the honor of The Most Outstanding Scholar in the College in 1969.

From 1969 until her retirement in 1984, she taught second grade at Brent Elementary School in Finneytown, Ohio. She published more than 140 poems and stories in Yiddish and English, and contributed articles to the *Yiddish Forward* newspaper. Lin was considered Mrs. Yiddish of Cincinnati and led the Yiddish club there.

The family relocated to Sarasota, Florida and from 1995 on, Lin taught weekly classes on Yiddish language, literature, culture, a reading course and ran monthly community programs at the Flanzer Jewish Community Center. She was a member of the Congregation for Humanistic Judaism. Lin was 76 when she died.

## Judith Lubeck Writes

I noted that in your Oystugen ... was a note from Stanley Siegelman of Great Neck, NY telling that the "Forward" is discontinuing its "Yiddish Vinki" column of which he is an outstanding contributor.

It is a shande that The Forward is canceling the ONLY column with some Yiddish in it when the original Forverts was, and remains a Yiddish language newspaper reflecting a Yiddish perspective on the world and our culture. Mr. Siegelman is very clever in Yiddish and English. What he produces is a delight. And a reminder of how "it" used to be. Some Yiddish in the Forward would be appreciated.

At the January meeting of our group "Keep Yiddish Alive" at the Osher Mann JCC, San Rafael, CA I used 3 of Siegelman's poems from old issues for a full hour of learning and enjoyment by all of us.

Please pass our appreciation to Mr. Siegelman with a groysn dank and he should keep doing them and find a new outlet or better yet have "The Forward" continue printing them because of a groundswell of complaints by all readers and all those who want to keep creative Yiddish expression alive.

This item reflects much of the focus of your last issue. I hope there will be the groundswell of reprimand to The Forward for canceling this very important last and only tangible Yiddish in its paper.

## Paramus Yiddish Club

(Khaverim Far Yidish), Friends for Yiddish, meets at 2:00 P.M. on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Our February topic is, "Tu Bishvat". Discussion is mostly in Yiddish and is led by Rabbi Arie Gotlieb at the Paramus JCC in Paramus, NJ.

The purpose of this club is to encourage the discussions in Yiddish, so that Yiddish becomes a current living language, not just a nostalgic curiosity. Our Club joined the IAYC to be able to use the educational materials such as Writings from famous Yiddish Authors at club meetings, and to find out from other clubs about Yiddish speakers also about the International Yiddish Conferences.

All are welcome. Membership is \$10 a year.  
**Call Varda Grinspan 201-791-0327 or  
e-mail: [vardagrinspan@verizon.net](mailto:vardagrinspan@verizon.net)**

## Mama's Knipl

Papa was always short of money, but mama always had a knipl. It was the Great Depression. Times on our chicken farm eight miles outside of Flemington, New Jersey were not good. Yes, there always was plenty of fresh and canned fruit and vegetables, dairy products, eggs and chicken—no hard cash. But mama always had her knipl.

It was in a slit in the mattress—Papa and we boys knew it, but never dared touch it. Mama's bed sheet was tucked so tight that mama could notice even a slight pull. No hospital or hotel sheet has ever been put on the way mama did.

When mama went to the hospital to give birth to little Semele she took her knipl—it was at her side the whole time. When Semele was brought in to be nursed, she had her two most prized possessions—one on either side of her chest.

Mama's knipl was earned from roomers and boarders who came out from The City. Our large farmhouse was always crammed during the summer. We boys all slept in one room, for every room meant more for mama's knipl.

Although mama collected cash from the roomers and boarders, she never paid papa for the chicken, eggs, milk, butter, cream, pot cheese, fruits and vegetables that we produced.

My mama always had a knipl!

### Der Bay

Editor: Philip "Fishl" Kutner  
1128 Tanglewood Way  
San Mateo, CA 94403

Return Service Requested

### *Der Bay*

Editor: Philip "Fishl" Kutner,  
Web site: <http://www.derbay.org>  
E-mail: [FISHL@derbay.org](mailto:FISHL@derbay.org)  
Ph: 650-349-6946

Please make checks for chai, payable to *Der Bay*.  
If you're blessed, Please send a LITTLE extra  
**Label date is when you LAST contributed.**

Networking is having others help you get what  
**YOU** want. *Der Bay* is a great networking tool.

## Mama, Speak to Me in Yiddish

Mama, speak to me in Yiddish. I remember how you drawled my name so that it sounded like fi'she-le, fi'she-le. When Chayle calls and she says it the same way, a chill and goose bumps cover my skin.

Now I see you very late at night. You are sitting on a chair with your hands clasped like Whistler's Mother. Mama, speak to me in Yiddish.

I miss you and our talks in Yiddish. Now I think about grammar, transliteration, syntax, past participles, complemented verbs, and my speech is stilted. With you it was cozy, free and easy.

Look at me—you'd be so proud and happy.

**Mama, oh mama, speak to me in Yiddish!**