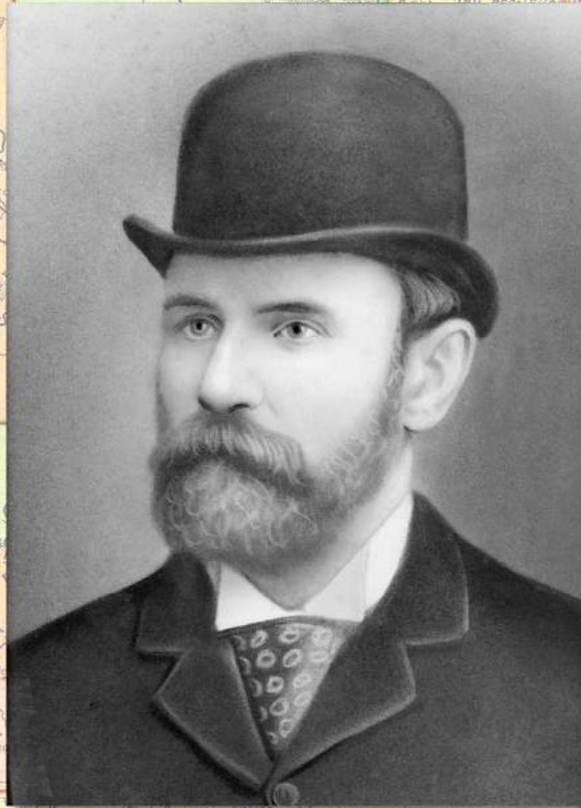


Revised October, 2012

Why North Dakota?



Davis Rubin

A Personal History of My Family

By

Dianne Ziskin Siegel

A PERSONAL HISTORY OF MY FAMILY

BY Dianne Ziskin Siegel

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Preface

I believe that we are connected to our families through our individual histories and that we must record them or they will be lost. This family history, which is written from my personal perspective, is an unending work in progress as are all family histories. I've tried to include references to most of the resources that I have found and used.

In times gone by, I spent countless hours in Washington, D.C., at the National Archives, tracking down microfilm of as many relatives as I could find, as well as interviewing anyone who could tell me stories. I wish I had done even more. And now with the computer, so much more is available sitting at home at the keyboard. It has made the research even more fun.

No family history is a finished document. Anyone who reads this is welcome to use it as they wish and to enlarge upon it in order to add their own stories.

I would love to hear memories of others or see pictures that I might not have seen. If you add or change anything please send me a copy so I can know about it too.

I want to thank everyone who has helped me edit, made corrections and offered advice. This was and continues to be a labor of love. I especially want to thank my husband, Leighton Siegel for his advice, his technical assistance, his computer knowledge and his time and talent in putting the final product together. He helped me scan pictures, he produced the CD itself and the cover, and he went with me to North Dakota where we visited both Grand Forks and Devils Lake.

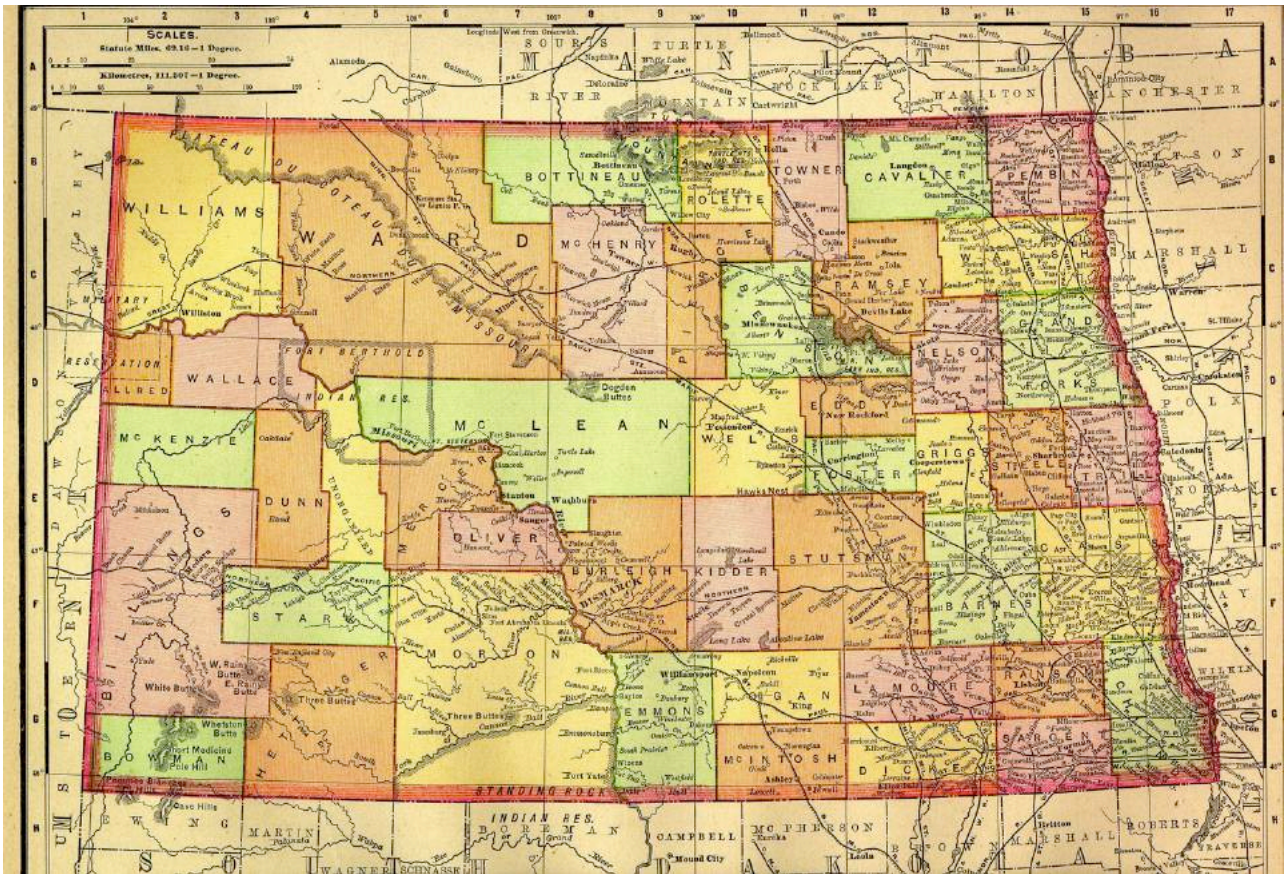
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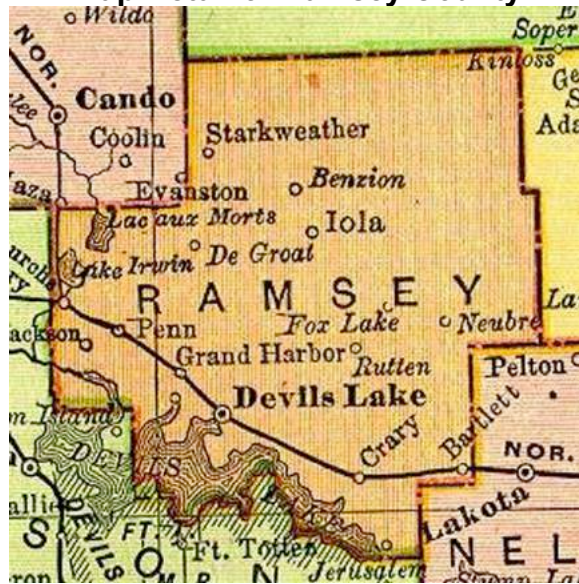
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Map of North Dakota 1895



Map Detail of Ramsey County



A PERSONAL HISTORY OF MY FAMILY BEGINS WITH THE JOURNEY TO NORTH DAKOTA

BY Dianne Ziskin Siegel

INTRODUCTION

My great grandparents, Davis and Bessie Rubin, emigrated from Russia to North Dakota in the late 1800s and my grandfather, Herman Wilensky, emigrated from Russia in the early 1900s. Both my mother and father were born in North Dakota and I have long been interested and fascinated about the history of my family and how and why they went to North Dakota. What possessed them to settle there? What could they have been thinking? What sort of people were they?

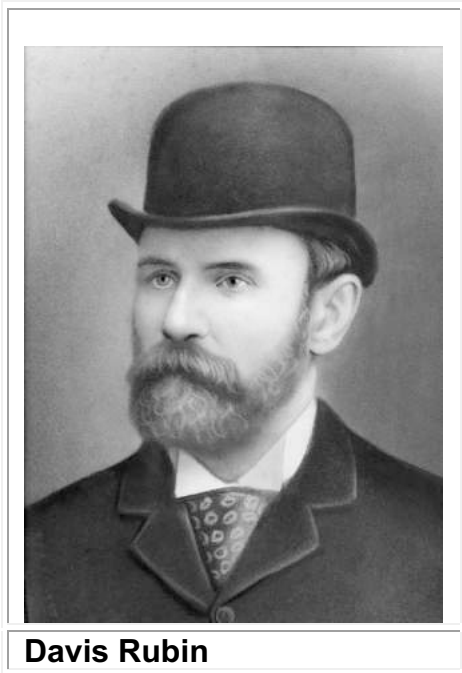
My interest in family history and genealogy surfaced in the 1970's, when two women from Fargo, N.D., Ruth Landfield and Toba Geller, advertised in the Jewish World, a local newspaper, that they were collecting the stories of Jewish families that had settled in North Dakota, and that they intended to write a book. I tried to get my mother to write something so that we could be included in this "book," but she thought I should do it, and so began my investigation. Since both my mother and father were from North Dakota, I wrote about both of them in response to the request from the North Dakota ladies. I knew more about my mother's family, because she grew up in Devils Lake, whereas my father left Grand Forks as a young boy. From that initial experience began a long and interesting journey for me into family histories of all the various branches of the families of my husband, Leighton Siegel, and my own. It also led to two wonderful family reunions, the Siegel Reunion in 1981 and the Ziskin Reunion in 1988, which of course, proved to be great additions to the family history that had already been collected.

In the early 90's, the Jewish Historical Society of the Upper Midwest acquired the research that those two farsighted women in Fargo had collected. The collection had never been turned into the promised book, and unfortunately, Ruth Landfield became ill and Mrs. Geller died before anything happened with the collection. But here it was, and I had the unique opportunity of being the volunteer asked to put this material into a cross referenced database so that anyone interested in the Jews of North Dakota or a particular family could use it. The stories were fascinating, they sounded familiar and they had common themes running through them. It seemed to me that perhaps it was just as well that the "book" hadn't yet been written since so many stories were the same – Jews emigrating from Russia, homesteading, farming, failing and leaving the state or moving into the nearest town and becoming a merchant. There were earlier emigrations of Jews from German and Russia who sometimes settled in small towns in North Dakota. Not everyone homesteaded; some became peddlers and merchants. The families that stayed generally prospered, but even those Jewish families eventually left North Dakota and moved to communities with larger Jewish communities or more opportunities for their children. And so I began to wonder, why North Dakota, why move to this unpopulated and rural state? And then I decided I would do some research and see if I could put together my own family history.

All of the information that I have compiled is from research that I have done over the years plus of course, stories from my mother and members of my family. My husband and I took

a field trip to Grand Forks and Devils Lake in 2005, and we finally saw the town with our own eyes. We returned for the dedication of the Jewish cemetery in 2006 (<http://www.sojnorthdakota.org>) and again in 2012.

NORTH DAKOTA ROOTS



The year is 1893. Documents put Davis Rubin, my great grandfather, in New York City where he filed his declaration of intention to become a citizen after emigrating from Russia. He then, through luck or plan, used some money from the Baron de Hirsch Fund to make his way to Devils Lake, North Dakota. He didn't come as part of an organized group. He did intend to homestead. Land was free and he was interested. Thirteen years later in 1905, my grandfather, Chaim (Herman) Wilensky also found his way to North Dakota and homesteaded near Williston, North Dakota. Again, land was free in North Dakota to the homesteaders.

WHY NORTH DAKOTA? – A Little History

From 1881 to about the middle of 1882 an excess of 18,000 Jewish refugees arrived in New York City from southern Russia. They came to escape the cruel persecution of the Russian Czar. There were families, single men and a few single women. These immigrants were mostly tradesmen. They knew little about agriculture, and in fact were not able to own land in Russia.

I had always heard the stories that the reason my great grandfather, Davis Rubin, went to North Dakota was because the Baron de Hirsch Fund offered money to entice him (and others) to settle in places like North Dakota. I became interested in who was this person and why was he so willing to help. Baron Maurice de Hirsch (1831 – 1896) lived in Munich, Brussels and Paris. He was a banker and a philanthropist. His total benefactions exceeded \$100 million, mostly to Jewish causes. He believed that Jews would be better accepted in the New Country if they were more like the already existing population and that translated into farming. He first tried to improve the conditions of the Jews in Russia, but he decided that the political climate of that time was not in league with his ideas, so he founded the Jewish Colonization Association with an initial sum of 10 million dollars. His initial goal was to help Russian Jews emigrate. Leading members of America's established German-Jewish community established the Baron de Hirsch Fund in New York in 1891 in order to provide assistance to Russian-Jewish immigrants in the United States with funds from de Hirsch. Baron de Hirsch's will specified that his fortune be used

to aid Jewish emigrants escaping Russia. Loans were available to people willing to farm, amounting to \$1,000 per person or less. The terms of repayment were lenient. \$1000 was a great deal of money in the late 1800s and early 1900s.

There was another agency funded by the Baron de Hirsch Fund and that was the "Industrial Removal Office." Removal in this case meant resettlement. This United States organization sought to encourage new immigrants to leave the large population centers on the East Coast and settle in the interior of the country. Resettlement in places like North Dakota certainly removed those individuals from places like New York.

There were two different kinds of settlements. North Dakota saw both types. The first type of settlement consisted of establishing an agricultural settlement by bringing a group of Jewish people together in order to farm, start a colony and be supportive of one another. Painted Woods was an example of this kind of settlement. The second type of settlement was by individuals who received some money directly from the Baron De Hirsch Fund and came on their own in order to homestead. An example of this was my great grandfather, Davis Rubin.

Interestingly enough, in Minnesota no special agricultural colonies were established; instead, the settlers who used the Baron de Hirsch funds were all individuals who became truck and dairy farmers. In the early part of the 1900s, the Industrial Removal Office in New York placed 1371 Jews in 40 Minnesota towns and villages. The wide spread settlement of Jews in Minnesota dates from this massive effort. Where collective settlement had failed as it certainly did in North Dakota, individual enterprise seemed to have had better success.

DAVIS RUBIN'S DECLARATION OF INTENTION

Davis Rubin filed his Declaration of Intention to become a citizen in New York City on June 7, 1893 in the Superior Court of the City of New York. His port of entry is unknown. He applied to homestead on June 20, 1894 in Devils Lake, North Dakota and on September 5, 1899 the land was his, having lived on it and farmed it for 5 years. He claims in his homestead document to have established residence on his land in March of 1893. (However, he seems to have been in New York City in June of 1893.)



Near the original homestead - picture taken in 2005

NORTH DAKOTA

The area that was to become Ramsey County was part of the Dakota Territory, which was formed in 1861, and included North and South Dakota, Montana and Wyoming. In 1864 the latter two became the Montana Territory. In 1873 the Dakota Territory was divided into North Dakota and South Dakota. Pembina County, which had been formed from Indian lands, was divided into seven counties, one of which was Ramsey County, which contained Devils Lake. The county lines were redrawn again in 1883. In 1889 North Dakota became our 39th State.

Although Dakota Territory was opened to settlers in 1863, prospective settlers stayed away because of the Civil War, Indian Raids, the financial panic of 1873, reports of blizzards, droughts, grasshoppers and the absence of transportation. In 1862, Congress passed the Homestead Act, which offered a free 160-acre tract of land to anyone over 21 who would live on it for five years, cultivate and improve the acreage. Still, settlement remained slow. This changed when the Northern Pacific and Great Northern Railroads began laying tracks across North Dakota. In 1869 Dan Eisenberg opened a trading post South of what is now Bismarck, along the Missouri River. When Bismarck was founded, he became one of its early merchants. He may be the first Jewish settler in North Dakota. (Plain Folks – North Dakota's Ethnic History, Sherman, Thorson, eds.) Also, gold was discovered near Bismarck in 1874 and that event drew Jews and non-Jews alike. The first Jewish farmers were members of the Thal family who arrived in 1876 and settled at Lakota in Nelson County, west of Grand Forks. As the plans to build a railroad became known, many people, including Jewish entrepreneurs, bought up land hoping that the railroad would need their land for development. This also increased the Jewish and the non-Jewish population in the State.

Imagine how it would have sounded to new or potential immigrants. The Baron de Hirsch Fund was promoting farming and states like North Dakota were offering free land. They had an opportunity to own land, which they could never have done in Russia. It must have sounded like the door to the American dream. A homestead would offer a great deal of hope for the future. They could have economic and personal freedom. Of course "free" land wasn't really free. At the going estimate of the time, equipment needed to till the land required an initial capital outlay of \$1120 dollars in 1890 values. And then still more money was needed for harvesting equipment, fencing, water supplies etc. Agencies located in Chicago and in New York as well as the Twin City communities loaned money and provided supplies such as seed to try and get the early farmers started. Still, many went into debt, which added to the failure rate.

In an Editorial from the Fargo Forum, March 12, 1913 on Jewish Farmers in North Dakota, it stated that there were 7,500 Jewish farming families in the United States. The largest number of Jewish farmers were in New Jersey, Connecticut next, then New York and then North Dakota. The peak year for Jewish farming in North Dakota was 1910. At that time there were 1200 people on 250 farms. Many, if not most, of the Jewish farmers sold their land after the requisite five years and moved to cities and towns. The extension of the Northern Pacific Railroad encouraged Jewish families to move to towns along the railroad and open businesses to serve travelers, railroad workers and farmers. By 1927 over 75 percent of the 2000 Jews in North Dakota lived in the state's five largest population

centers – Bismarck, Fargo, Grand Forks, Devils Lake and Minot. (The information came from the annual report of 1913 of the Jewish Agricultural and Industrial Aid Society of New York. The society was established to promote farming among Jews and to give financial assistance to Jewish families who wish to become farmers.)

HOW ST. PAUL MINNESOTA GOT INVOLVED

The German Jews had settled earlier in the United States. As a group, they were better educated and more affluent. They had mixed feelings about the huge emigration from Russia of Jews who were poorly educated, did not speak English and needed a great deal of help just to get started. There was a general sentiment among the German Jewish population that there were too many Jewish refugees settling in large cities. There were two problems: First, life was often hard in the cities and second, it was felt that this concentration of Jews in large cities might increase anti-Semitism. Rabbi Wechsler, a St. Paul Rabbi, was very much in favor of promoting the agricultural settlement idea. It would allow for some Jewish occupational redistribution and it would relieve the pressure on the Jewish community in Minnesota who were judged unable to absorb large number of newcomers. Therefore, Rabbi Wechsler obtained a grant in Burleigh County in North Dakota on the Missouri River in 1882. Priority was given to Russian immigrants already living in St. Paul. The settlement consisted of eleven original families, refugees from Russia, who took advantage of this land grant. Rabbi Wechsler gave \$600-\$800 to each family from the National Jewish Community, (which could have been from the de Hirsch Fund) as the local community could not provide very much. He formed the Hebrew Aid and Emigrant Society of St. Paul and was its President. The new community was called Painted Woods. It was located six hours from Bismarck by horse.

The Bismarck Tribune, June 6, 1882, states: “Julius Austrian, a leading commission merchant of St. Paul and the owner of several steamers on Lake Superior arrived a few days ago with a party of Russian Jewish refugees, whom he located at Painted Woods, 30 miles north of Bismarck, where they have taken claims, purchased railroad lands and will establish a village. They located in the immediate vicinity of Wm. Falconer’s and purchased the improved farm owned by Nick Bellmore. The settlement now consists of 22 families. 60 additional families will join them in a few weeks. They are pleased with the country and feel under great obligation to Mr. Austrian, who conducted them to this locality as agent of the American relief associations.”

PAINTED WOODS

Unfortunately, the Painted Woods colonists were handicapped by inexperience, shortage of funds, a hard winter, prairie fires and internal dissension. Neighboring farmers at first welcomed the Russian Jews and the merchants of Bismarck, Jewish and non-Jewish, provided credit.

Farming was difficult everywhere in the United States for Jewish immigrants. The winter of 1882-83 was particularly severe in the Dakotas. The cold was so intense that the kerosene would freeze in the lamps, and one’s very breath would congeal on the pillow at night. Severe blizzards raged that winter. These blizzards were of such intensity it made even the short trip from house to barn a hazardous journey. One of the survivors relates

how some of the colonists used ropes, one end fastened to the doorpost and the other end tied around the body, to prevent losing themselves in the blinding sheets of ice and snow. For days at a time, the cattle had to go without water. The year 1884 was regarded as its best year agriculturally and at that time there were 54 families. In 1885 the crops again failed.

(from a summary of Jews in North Dakota from *Our Jewish Farmers, the Story of the Jewish Agricultural Society* by Gabriel Davidson, L.B. Fisher, New York, 1943.)

Rabbi Wechsler and Julius Austrian rode a train with several carloads of potatoes, meat and supplies to the settlement and found despairing colonists on bad terms with their neighbors and contention in their midst. The drought of 1886 ended all hope and the settlers drifted away. By 1901 only three Jewish farmers were left in that particular area. The Painted Woods community created a drain on the Jewish community of St. Paul. From 1882 to 1886, St. Paul Jews alone spend \$30,000 to aid the Dakota colonists. When there were other settlements needing help, such as Devils Lake, the community was thoroughly drained of their financial resources. No one was more disillusioned than Wechsler. He had seen his dream to near-success. He, more than most, was aware of the tragic side – the hopes and the desperate labors of the settlers.

Other communities that were tried, but never came to be were the town of Nudelman, platted and filed with the McLean county Register of Deeds in May, 1888, and Montefoire, a name chosen in 1887. Montefoire Township included the present city of Wilton. Neither community ever came to be. The name Montefoire was adopted by a school district and still exists.

There were undoubtedly many reasons that these families did not succeed as farmers. They had no knowledge of farming and had never done so in Russia; they apparently quarreled amongst themselves and with their neighbors, by whom they were often misused, reproached and despised; they had poor English language skills; their dress and appearance set them apart from their neighbors, many did not want to do physical work and it was thought by some that making them the object of charity did not lead to independence. Also, they had married early, had many children and they were disappointed by life in America and homesick.

Aside from the agricultural colonies that were started in North Dakota, approximately 400 other Jewish settlers also came on their own to farm in North Dakota. About the same time that the Baron de Hirsch Fund was used to establish the Jewish Agricultural and Industrial Aid Society in 1900 and the Industrial Removal Office in 1901, Rabbi Levy in Chicago was organizing the Jewish Agriculturists' Aid Society of America. In 1901 that organization began a ten-year relationship with the Baron de Hirsch Fund, serving as a midwestern base for the New York agencies. Ultimately the New York organization felt that the Chicago organization was too optimistic about the potential success of Jewish farmers in North Dakota and they broke off their relationship. Both organizations had the same goals: 1. Reduce the concentration of Jewish immigrants in urban ghettos by dispersing them throughout the country and 2. Remove a stereotype by proving that Jews were capable of physical productive labor not merely commercial or financial dealings. The Chicago based organization sent 144 families to 26 townships in counties throughout

North Dakota. The Chicago agency understood that Jews needed to live near other Jews if this experiment had any hope of success. The Chicago agency also subsidized the work of the Jewish Chautauqua Society which sent reading materials in Hebrew, Yiddish and English on Jewish history and religion. The Society published "The Jewish Farmer," a Yiddish agricultural monthly newspaper, beginning in May 1908. Its purpose was to be an educational tool and a public forum. It included articles from other magazines about farming and a question and answer column all written in Yiddish.

Despite the hardships and failures a Jewish revival occurred. Painted Woods was just the first settlement. Between 1882 and 1910, 400 men and women, representing 250 families, filed for land in seven different colonies. By 1912 these families possessed about 5000 acres which were valued at half a million dollars.

DEVILS LAKE

Devils Lake was settled in 1882 and was the second homestead colony. Eventually 104 Jewish men and women filed in Ramsey County for land in this area. The original colonists also had help in the establishment of this community from the Baron de Hirsch Fund. This was the community in which my great grandfather Davis Rubin, either by chance or design settled and homesteaded. He arrived in 1893 ten years after the initial settlement.

In September of 1889, seven years after the colony was established, a committee from the Twin Cities was formed to visit the Jewish Colony near Devils Lake to examine their conditions. They returned with the intent of raising money to help the farmers who had remained. At this point Devils Lake became part of the social welfare program of the Minneapolis Jewry. The Dakota Relief Committee was formed. The St. Paul and Manitoba Railroad transported the supplies free. The shipment was large enough for their needs and consisted of 1300 pounds of flour, barrels of beans and rice, four cases of clothing and wood for heating. Whereas the St. Paul community had supported the Painted Woods community, Minneapolis Jewry took on the support of the Devils Lake community, although support came from all over the country, Jewish and non-Jewish alike. (San Francisco Jews were most generous.) Still the colony suffered and many colonists began to leave. A few settlers held out and in 1892 were joined by others, including my great grandfather. The colony persisted and eventually became a success.

Farmer Philip Greenberg reported on behalf of the colonists in 1901:

We had a very good crop this year and all of the Jewish farmers were greatly benefited by the threshing machine, which the Jewish Agricultural and Industrial Society of New York placed here. All of the farmers threshed in good season. This is the first time that the crop of the Jewish farmers has been threshed before November since they have been here. (North Dakota History, Jewish Colonies at Painted Woods and Devils Lake)

From a report of the Jewish Agricultural And Industrial Aid Society: The following amount of threshing was done with the outfit during the season just passed for 18 Jewish farmers in said section, to wit:

No. of bushels of wheat	1800
No. of bushels of oats	3233
No..of bushels of flax	8567
No. of bushels of barley	2833

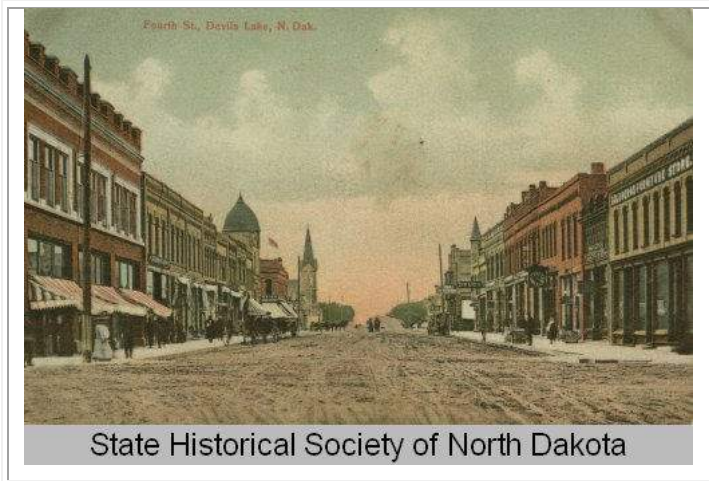
Devils Lake had a full community life. High Holiday services were held in the courthouse and court dates were not set in the fall of the year until High Holiday dates were scheduled first. Despite privations, most of the settlers adhered to Orthodox Jewish ritual. Rabbi Papermaster had come from Lithuania in 1883 and settled in Fargo before moving to Grand Forks in 1891. He was the first rabbi in North Dakota. Each fall he visited Devils Lake to prepare kosher meat and fowl for the winter. He returned when he was needed for a wedding or a bris (circumcision ceremony for newborn baby boys).

Often when the colonists left the farm settlements, they became peddlers, storekeepers or railroad construction workers. Old timers among the former Jewish colonists recalled that non-Jewish farmers often put up peddlers for the night and served them fried eggs for breakfast as a courtesy because they knew the peddlers would not eat pork. One or two Jewish women in the towns opened boarding houses catering to Jewish bachelors as a way of finding husbands for their daughters.

The settlement of Devils Lake was still in existence in 1912 and at that time was the Northwest's oldest Jewish farm settlement. By the mid-twenties, however, many of the families had drifted away. Davis Rubin lived there until he died in 1936 and Herman and Ida Wilensky moved to Minneapolis in the 1930s. The children had gone to the cities and all that was left were cemeteries.

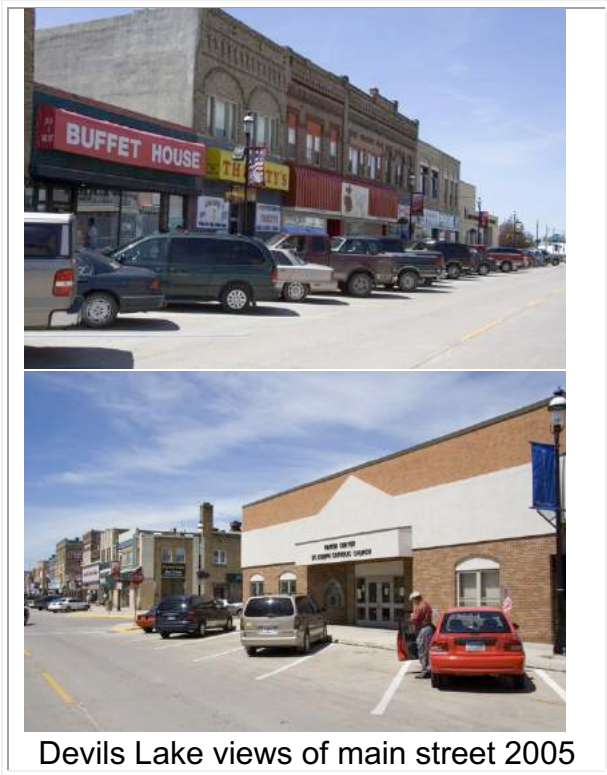


Devils Lake approx. 1902





Walts Clothing Store – Virginia, MN approx.. 1949



Devils Lake views of main street 2005

RUBIN BRANCH

My great grandfather, Davis Rubin, left the pogroms and persecution in Russia and as stated before, homesteaded outside of Devils Lake arriving in 1893. He says he arrived in Devils Lake in 1892, but his homesteading papers indicate it may have been 1893. His intention to become a citizen was filed in New York in 1893 and his actual homestead papers were filed in North Dakota in 1894. Davis was married to Bessie Waslowsky while still in Russia. Davis came alone. He was born in 1854 and was about 38 years of age when he emigrated.

The family, Davis, Bessie, Daubra, Ida and Sam are listed on the 1900 census. The name is spelled Reubens. They appear again on the 1910 census spelled Rubin. The name Daubra becomes Americanized to Dora.

Davis and Bessie came from South Russia, near Odessa, in the State of Kherson (Kherson, Gaberna). Rubin was not the original family name, but instead was the name of the family that brought Davis out of Russia. Or, perhaps a name that he acquired or bought to keep himself out of the Russian army. The original name is unknown. Its possible that Rubin was spelled Reubens and its also possible that he changed his name upon entering the United States. He seems to first appear in New York City.

An aside about names: It wasn't until the mid 1800s, that Jewish families in Russia and Poland were compelled to take family names. And even at that, names were purchased to keep sons out of the Russian army and thus everyone in the family might not use the same name. Therefore, when people emigrated after that, they felt no great allegiance to this family name that had been chosen or thrust upon them, and changed it as they saw fit.

Davis had at least one brother with whom he corresponded. The brother's surname was Gordon and he lived in Egypt.

When Davis came to North Dakota in 1893, it was a territory. He left his wife and children in Russia and 8 years passed before he was able to send for them. The original homestead was very large and was located between Starkweather and Edmore, near Devils Lake. Davis' plat was at least twice the 160 acres each homesteader was given. It was possible to purchase the land before the five years elapsed for \$1.25 an acre. Apparently that is what he did. When his wife, Bessie, came to North Dakota, she also homesteaded an adjoining piece of property. Bessie claimed to be divorced in order to own property in her own name. (plat map attached). Davis began by working on other farms in order to earn money for his property as well as earn some extra money.

The Historical Society of North Dakota printed a letter from Davis Rubin who was then a furniture storeowner in Devils Lake. This letter gives some insight into the conditions under which the immigrants existed.

The letter is reprinted below exactly as it appeared:

"I settled in 1892. I took a homestead and bought land (a quarter section). Got money from the Jewish Society of New York at six percent. We got money from the local banks at twelve percent and a bonus of ten percent, so can't wonder a Jew couldn't farm. The first Jewish settlement was founded by Baron de Hirsch. He was a millionaire and left

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

4-1961

HOMESTEAD.

Land Office at Grand Forks N.D.
Sept. 5 1894

FINAL CERTIFICATE } APPLICATION
No. 5183 } No. 13677

It is hereby certified That, pursuant to the provisions of Section No. 2201, Revised Statutes of the United States, Davis Rubien has made payment in full for

7.64 S. 7th & Lots 2, 3 & 4

of Section No. 24, in Township No. 127 N., of Range No. 62 W., of the 5th Principal Meridian West, containing 159 1/2 acres.

Non, therefore, be it known, That on presentation of this certificate to the COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE, the said Davis Rubien shall be entitled to a patent for the tract of land above described.

E. H. Keiser
Register.

Homestead Papers

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

HOMESTEAD.

(AFFIDAVIT.)
Land Office at Grand Forks N.D.
June 19th 1894

Davis Rubien of Dela W.D. having filed my application, No. 13677 for an entry under section No. 2200, Revised Statutes of the United States, do solemnly swear that I am not the proprietor of more than one hundred and eighty acres of land in any State or Territory, that I am over 21 years of age and single and paying the land and city taxes of becoming a citizen of the U.S.

That my said application is honestly and in good faith made for the purpose of actual settlement and cultivation, and not for the benefit of any other person, person, or corporation, and that I will faithfully and honestly endeavor to comply with all the requirements of law, as to settlement, residence, and cultivation necessary to acquire title to the land applied for; that I am not acting as agent of any person, corporation, or syndicate, in making such entry, nor in collusion with any person, corporation, or syndicate to give them the benefit of the land subject, or any part thereof, or the timber thereon; that I do not apply to enter the same for the purpose of speculation, but in good faith to obtain a home for myself, and that I have not directly or indirectly made, and will not make, any agreement or contract in any way or manner, with any person or persons, corporation or syndicate whatsoever, by which the title which I might acquire from the Government of the United States should in whole or in part be the benefit of any person except myself; and further that since August 30, 1890, I have not entered under the land laws of the United States, or filed upon, a quantity of land, agricultural in character and not mineral, which with the tracts now applied for would make more than three hundred and twenty acres.

Not being permitted to make for myself any entry under the U.S. laws, I am in receipt of the balance of the official fee and amount in the Land Office

Davis Rubien
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 19th day of June, 1894.

Ed. Durell Judge and ex-officio Clerk of County Court
Harrison W. Durell

NOTE.—This affidavit is complete, if copy, of land entered upon prior to August 30, 1890, giving date of settlement mentioned, and showing improvements.

Homestead Papers

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

(4-1961)

HOMESTEAD PROOF—TESTIMONY OF WITNESS.

Robert Wallace being called as witness in support of the Homestead entry of Davis Rubien for 159 1/2 acres of land, testifies as follows:

Ques. 1.—What is your name, age, and post-office address?
Ans. Robert Wallace, age 31 years, Dela, N.D.

Ques. 2.—Are you well acquainted with the claimant in this case and the land entered in his claim?
Ans. Yes

Ques. 3.—Is said tract within the limits of an incorporated town or settled site of a city or town, or tract in any way for trade or business?
Ans. No

Ques. 4.—State specifically the character of this land—whether it is timber, prairie, grazing, farming, coal, or mineral land.
Ans. Prairie farming land

Ques. 5.—When did claimant settle upon the homestead, and at what date did he establish actual residence thereon?
Ans. Some time in March 1893

Ques. 6.—Have claimant and family resided continuously on the homestead since first establishing residence thereon? (If answer is affirmative, state the facts.)
Ans. The claimant says his wife is on claim. He went to New South on the evening of 1893, for 3 months.

Ques. 7.—For what period or periods has the settler been absent from the land since making settlement thereon, and at respective times, did claimant's family make upon and cultivate the said farming lands thereon?
Ans. 3 months in the winter of 1893, to get his wife to come to New South.

Ques. 8.—How much of the homestead has the settler cultivated, and for how many seasons did he raise crops thereon?
Ans. from 30 to 25 acres for five years.

Ques. 9.—What improvements are on the land, and what is their value?
Ans. 1 farmhouse, 1 stable, fence 75 acres, plow and land all worth \$350.00. Household fifty dollars.

Ques. 10.—Are there any indications of coal, salines, or minerals of any kind on the homestead? (If so describe what they are and state whether the land is more valuable for agricultural than for mineral purposes.)
Ans. No

Ques. 11.—Has the claimant mortgaged, sold, or contracted to sell, any portion of said homestead?
Ans. Not to my knowledge.

Ques. 12.—Are you interested in this claim; and do you think the settler has acted in entire good faith in perfecting this entry?
Ans. No Yes

(Sign plainly with full Christian name.) Robert Wallace

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing testimony was read to the witness before being subscribed and was sworn to before me this 19th day of June, 1894, at my office at Delaware Falls, in Harrison County, N.D.

E. H. Keiser
Register.

(The testimony of witnesses must be taken at the same time and place and before the same officer as claimant's land affidavit. The witnesses must be full and complete to each and every specific acre, and officers taking testimony will be expected to make no mistake in date, description of land, or otherwise.)

Homestead Papers

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES
14-50963

HOMESTEAD PROOF—TESTIMONY OF WITNESS.

Albert Paulson being called as witness in entry No. 21, 113, 21, 21 of Section 30, Township 157 N., Range 62 E., to testify as follows:

Ques. 1.—What is your name, age, and post-office address?
 Ans. Albert Paulson, age 35 years, Devils Lake, N.D.

Ques. 2.—Are you well acquainted with the claimant in this case and the land embraced in his claim?
 Ans. Yes.

Ques. 3.—Is said claim within the limits of an incorporated town or selected site of a city or town, or used in any way for trade or business?
 Ans. No.

Ques. 4.—State specifically the character of the land—whether it is timber, prairie, grazing, farming, coal, or mineral land.
 Ans. Prairie for raising land.

Ques. 5.—When did claimant settle upon the land, and at what date did he establish actual residence?
 Ans. See March 1878.

Ques. 6.—Have claimant and family resided continuously on the homestead since first establishing residence thereon? (If settler is unmarried, state the fact.)
 Ans. He has resided continuously on the except for about 3 1/2 months in 1878. His wife is in Russia.

Ques. 7.—For what period or periods has the settler been absent from the land since making settlement, and for what purpose, and if temporarily absent, did claimant's family reside upon and cultivate the land during such absence?
 Ans. 3 months in the winter of 1878, to get his wife to come to the country.

Ques. 8.—How much of the homestead has the settler cultivated, and for how many seasons did he raise crops thereon?
 Ans. from 30 to 35 acres, for five years.

Ques. 9.—What improvements are on the land, and what is their value?
 Ans. 1 frame house, 1 stable, 1 well, 75 acres plowed land all worth \$350.00. One hundred fifty dollars.

Ques. 10.—Are there any indications of coal, salines, or minerals of any kind on the homestead? (If so, describe what they are, and state whether the land is more valuable for agricultural than for mineral purposes.)
 Ans. No.

Ques. 11.—Has the claimant mortgaged, sold, or contracted to sell, any portion of said homestead?
 Ans. Not to any person.

Ques. 12.—Are you interested in this claim; and do you think the settler has acted in entire good faith in perfecting this entry?
 Ans. Yes.

(Sign plainly with full christian name.) Robert Wallace

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing testimony was read to the witness before being subscribed and was sworn to before me this 26 day of August, 1897, at my office at Devils Lake, in Kanney County, N.D.

[SEE NOTE ON FOURTH PAGE.] D. J. Durre
 County Judge, Kanney Co., N.D.

(The testimony of witnesses must be taken at the same time and place and before the same officer as claimant's final affidavit. The answers must be full and complete to each and every question asked, and officers taking testimony will be expected to make no mistakes in dates, description of land, or otherwise.)

6-277

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES
14-50963

HOMESTEAD PROOF—TESTIMONY OF WITNESS.

Albert Paulson being called as witness in entry No. 21, 113, 21, 21 of Section 30, Township 157 N., Range 62 E., to testify as follows:

Ques. 1.—What is your name, age, and post-office address?
 Ans. Albert Paulson, age 35 years, Devils Lake, N.D.

Ques. 2.—Are you well acquainted with the claimant in this case and the land embraced in his claim?
 Ans. Yes.

Ques. 3.—Is said claim within the limits of an incorporated town or selected site of a city or town, or used in any way for trade or business?
 Ans. No.

Ques. 4.—State specifically the character of the land—whether it is timber, prairie, grazing, farming, coal, or mineral land.
 Ans. Prairie for raising land.

Ques. 5.—When did claimant settle upon the land, and at what date did he establish actual residence?
 Ans. See March 1878.

Ques. 6.—Have claimant and family resided continuously on the homestead since first establishing residence thereon? (If settler is unmarried, state the fact.)
 Ans. He has resided continuously on the except for about 3 1/2 months in 1878. His wife is in Russia.

Ques. 7.—For what period or periods has the settler been absent from the land since making settlement, and for what purpose, and if temporarily absent, did claimant's family reside upon and cultivate the land during such absence?
 Ans. 3 months in the winter of 1878, to get his wife to come to the country.

Ques. 8.—How much of the homestead has the settler cultivated, and for how many seasons did he raise crops thereon?
 Ans. from 30 to 35 acres, for five years.

Ques. 9.—What improvements are on the land, and what is their value?
 Ans. 1 frame house, 1 stable, 1 well, 75 acres plowed land all worth \$350.00. One hundred fifty dollars.

Ques. 10.—Are there any indications of coal, salines, or minerals of any kind on the homestead? (If so, describe what they are, and state whether the land is more valuable for agricultural than for mineral purposes.)
 Ans. No.

Ques. 11.—Has the claimant mortgaged, sold, or contracted to sell, any portion of said homestead?
 Ans. Not to any person.

Ques. 12.—Are you interested in this claim; and do you think the settler has acted in entire good faith in perfecting this entry?
 Ans. Yes.

(Sign plainly with full christian name.) Robert Wallace

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing testimony was read to the witness before being subscribed and was sworn to before me this 26 day of August, 1897, at my office at Devils Lake, in Kanney County, N.D.

[SEE NOTE ON FOURTH PAGE.] D. J. Durre
 County Judge, Kanney Co., N.D.

(The testimony of witnesses must be taken at the same time and place and before the same officer as claimant's final affidavit. The answers must be full and complete to each and every question asked, and officers taking testimony will be expected to make no mistakes in dates, description of land, or otherwise.)

6-277

FINAL AFFIDAVIT REQUIRED OF HOMESTEAD CLAIMANTS.

SECTION 30 OF THE REVISED STATUTES OF THE UNITED STATES.

I, Davis Rubin, having made a Homestead entry of the 26 1/4 Sec. 14 of Range No. 62, subject to entry at Devils Lake under section No. 2291 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, do now apply to perfect my claim thereon by virtue of section No. 2291 of the Revised Statutes of the United States; and for that purpose do solemnly swear that I, Davis Rubin, a citizen of the United States; that I have made actual settlement upon and have cultivated and resided upon said land since the 15 day of March, 1878 to the present time; that no part of said land has been alienated, except as provided in section 2283 of the Revised Statutes, but that I am the sole and sole owner as an actual settler; that I will bear true allegiance to the Government of the United States; and, further, that I have not heretofore perfected or abandoned an entry made under the homestead laws of the United States, except that he is unable to appear in person at the Devils Lake court office by his attorney of the post-office at Devils Lake, N.D. (Sign plainly with full christian name.) Davis X Rubin

I, D. J. Durre, of Devils Lake, Kanney Co., N.D., do hereby certify that the above affidavit was subscribed and sworn to before me this 26 day of August, 1897, at my office at Devils Lake in Kanney County, N.D.

D. J. Durre
 County Judge, Kanney Co., N.D.

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES
14-50963

FINAL AFFIDAVIT REQUIRED OF HOMESTEAD CLAIMANTS.

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I, D. J. Durre, of Devils Lake, Kanney Co., N.D., do hereby certify that the above affidavit was subscribed and sworn to before me this 26 day of August, 1897, at my office at Devils Lake in Kanney County, N.D.

D. J. Durre
 County Judge, Kanney Co., N.D.

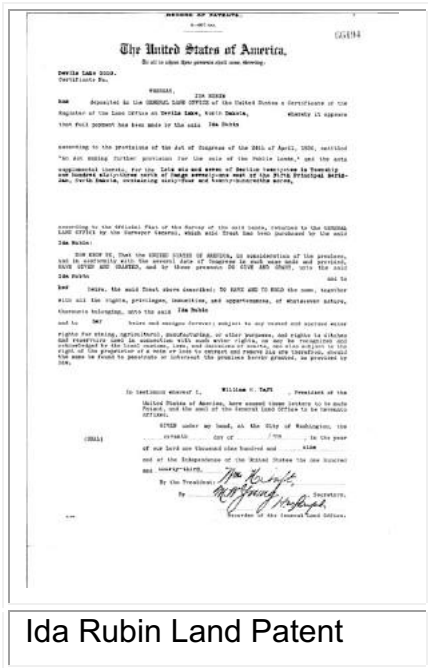
Homestead Papers

Homestead Papers

The North Dakota Historical Society material goes on: "Davis Rubin's story runs parallel with many of the other immigrants. After working for seven years, he saved enough money to send for his family, which was still in Europe. To make ends meet he contracted to work for a neighboring farmer for 80 cents per day for eight months, but was never paid for his labor. In 1907, after 15 years of farming, he left a half section of land with a mortgage of \$4200 against it and moved to Devils Lake. His first job in Devils Lake was

herding cattle. At a later date, he went into the junk business, which included the buying of wool and hides. His final and most successful business venture was the retail selling of furniture. The answer to the question of why so many Jews entered the mercantile world can best be found in Rubin's brief biography: monetary success in the mercantile world came faster and more easily than in farming."

At first Davis rented his farmland to others who farmed it. The farm was eventually sold. The farm was adjacent to the Calof homesteads and the families were very close. I have always liked the story about the dining room table that Abe Calof had on his farm. The middle of the table was cut out and operated like a lazy susan. It was controlled by a pedal, which Abe manipulated. The food was set in the center of the table and it came around only once. The family, friends and assorted others took what they could when the food stopped in front of them or else they missed their opportunity. Baila Calof, wife of Abe Calof, became a close friend to my grandmother, Ida Rubin Wilensky. It is her memoirs that have been turned into a book and offer the best description of what life was really like. The book is entitled: Rachel Calof's Story. (Indiana University Press 1995)



According to the Land Management Office, Davis Rubin filed for land patents for Bessie Rubin in 1906, Ida Rubin 1909, Sam Rubin in 1905, Doba Rubin in 1904 and again in 1903. A land patent documents the transfer of land ownership from the federal government to individuals. This may have been a way to increase one's land holdings.

Bessie Waslowsky Rubin

Davis Rubin b. 1854 d. May, 1936 married Bessie Waslowsky b. 1855 d. 1919

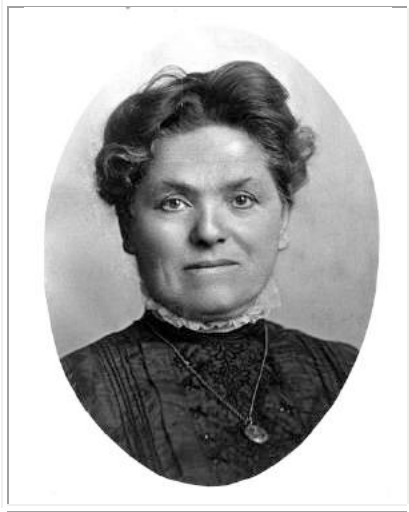
CHILDREN

Max b. unk. m. wife and children in Russia

Doba (Dora) b. 1876 m. Herman Adelman

Sam b. 1884 didn't marry

Ida b. 1886 d. 1949 m. Herman Wilensky b. 1882 d. 1972



Bessie Waslowsky Rubin

Bessie Waslowsky Rubin arrived in Philadelphia in 1900. According to the 1900 Census she was born in April of 1855. It took Davis six months to go to Philadelphia to meet her and bring her back to North Dakota. Information from their Declaration of Intention to become a citizen contains the following information: Davis Rubin was naturalized on November 25, 1898. Bessie Rubin was born in Russia in 1855, she filed her intention to become a citizen on May 25, 1900. She arrived in Philadelphia in April, 1900. Bessie brought only one child with her and that child was Dora. Two of her other children, Ida and Sam, were sent later by their Aunt Rachel. There is a family story that was told about Aunt Rachel who asked her small niece, Ida, to name a child after her. This memory came to Ida in a dream after giving birth to her second daughter and so inspired Ida to name that

baby, Rozella. Ida, my grandmother, was born in October 1879. She was 15 or 16 years of age when she arrived in the United States. She stayed in Philadelphia with relatives and initially went to school there.

I don't know a great deal about my great grandmother, Bessie Waslowsky Rubin. She had relatives in Philadelphia and had a cousin living in Winnipeg who was named Nutra Shack. His wife was Pauline. Nutra Shack had a sister named Clara Lipshitz. Both Clara and my grandmother Ida were named Chya after their grandmother who was also named Chya (that would be my great great grandmother Chya). As is the custom in continuing names through the generations, our daughter Lesli is named Chya.



Sam Rubin. Dora Rubin, Ida Rubin

Still later, the fourth child of Davis and Bessie came to Devils Lake. His name was Max. He left a wife and a son and daughter in Russia when he came. Max was a carpenter. None of Max's family ever joined him in this country. Correspondence was maintained, but the last trace was lost during the Second World War. After the War, a letter was received in North Dakota addressed to Rubin. Money was sent, but the contact was lost.

Bessie and Davis had eight children, four survived and all four eventually joined the parents in North Dakota. Bessie and Davis had two sets of twins. However, of those two sets of twins, only my grandmother Ida survived. Twins reappear in future generations, specifically my husband, Leighton, and I have identical twin daughters, Pam and Lesli and John and Sarah Adelman who settled in Winnipeg had fraternal twins, David and Barbara.

Davis and Bessie lived next door to the furniture store. The two buildings are pictured below as they appear in 2012 on 2nd street and 5th avenue.



THE AREA NEAR THE HOMESTEADS

An article in the North Dakota State Historical Society paints a picture of life there: “A mile west and one mile south of the Jewish cemetery (which is now abandoned) was the United States post office known as Ben Zion. It was a solitary building, which also served as the living quarters of Bennie Greenberg, the postman. Mail delivery was once a week brought by a team of horse from Devils Lake. When the Farmers Grain and Shipping Company Railroad was built to Garske in 1902 the post office of Ben Zion was closed. Garske was only five miles southwest of Ben Zion and offered daily train service and delivery of the mail.



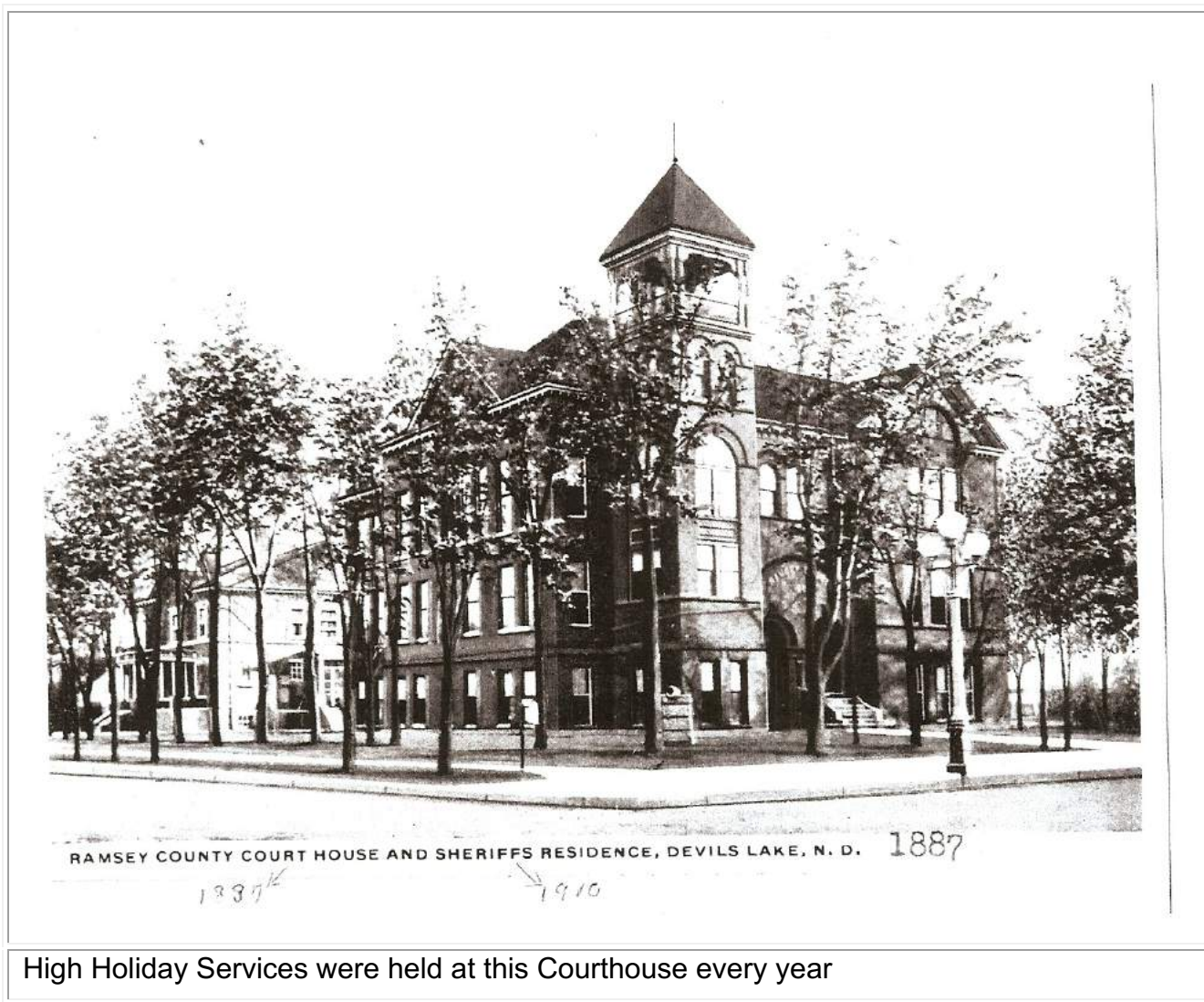
Davis Rubin about 1930

There was never a Jewish community located in the Ben Zion vicinity, although Jewish families occupied land every quarter of a mile in the area. The nearest thing resembling an area village was a settlement four miles east of the Jewish cemetery where four members of the Calof family lived and had build houses at the corner of their land where the four pieces of property came together. Just north of their farms was located the area school house. The four Calofs were Moses Kolov, Charlie Kalaov, Abraham Calof and Jahn Calof. The Herman Kauffmans near whose property the cemetery developed were the parents of Lottie Kaufman, who was married in 1887 to Adolph Zukor, who later became the multi millionaire motion picture tycoon of Paramount Pictures. Davis and Bessie Rubin’s homesteads were also nearby.

In 1902 a dark cloud descended upon the Jewish settlers when it was discovered that the government land on which the Jewish cemetery was located had been advertised for sale and actually sold. A group of 30 Jewish residents subscribed to amounts sufficient to purchase five acres of land to hold and continue the existing cemetery. My great grandfather, Davis Rubin, was among the contributors. The last person buried there was Mendel Mill in 1935. Davis Rubin is not buried in this cemetery, but is buried in Grand Forks, North Dakota along with his wife, Bessie. The may have chosen Grand Forks because there was a synagogue there.

Bessie Rubin died in 1919 at the age of 64 just before my mother’s youngest sister, Bess Wilensky Barenbaum was born. There doesn’t seem to be any indication of what happened. She hadn’t seemed ill to the grandchildren. My mother, Pauline, remembers being in school and someone coming to get them. The children were taken to Morris Glickson’s house and left with the housekeeper.

According to what I have been told, there were always enough men for a minyan in Devils Lake. It was often my great grandfather, Davis Rubin, who conducted services, which were held in people's homes or on the High Holidays in the Court House. Once in a while, a Hebrew teacher would come from the "old country" to live in Devils Lake and teach the boys Hebrew and help prepare them for their Bar Mitzvahs. Davis Rubin would often act as Rabbi on those occasions. The religious men in town were Davis Rubin, Mendel Mill and Abraham Adelman.



WHITE & HENDERSON FOR CLOTHING HATS AND SHOES

A. H. BELL & CO.
 PROMPT SERVICE DRUGGISTS PHONE 237

HOME MADE CANDIES ALWAYS FRESH

100 DEVILS LAKE

Builders Hardware A complete stock always on hand
 At **C. P. BRAINARD'S**

- Rustad Bank, wks G N shops, 205 w 13th st (Hvaagena)
- Rustom Iver O, farmer, 801 3d st (Sarah)
- Rutherford Andrew, wks G N shops, 213 w 12th st (Rena)
- Rutten Miss Anna, 722 6th st
- Rutten Herman, city assessor, 722 6th st (Sophia)
- Ryan Miss Alice, domestic, Mercy hospital
- Ryan E J, teamster, 611 6th st (Margaret)
- RYAN J H**, milk route (rural telephone)
- Rosenberger Milton, stenographer G N shops, 620 6th st
- Rosin Miss Elda, 823 Kelly ave
- Rothacker A, janitor court house, 718 1st st (Ledia)
- Rothecker Nick, bottling works, 505 4th st (Lizzie)
- Routier E F, farmer, 829 4th st (Pauline)
- ROUTIER F H**, cashier First National Bank, 812 6th st (Myrtle)
- Routier Geo, clk Mann's store, 305 1/2 4th st
- Rubein Davis, junk dealer, 512 2d st (Bessie)
- Rubin Miss Ida, 512 2d st
- Rubin Sam, pool room, 512 2d st
- Rudisill J A, carp, 814 Hill ave (Thresa)
- Rudser Peter, carp, 308 6th st
- Rudser Miss Emily, 308 6th st
- Rugar Miss Rosa, 624 5th st
- Rugar Mrs Rose, 624 5th st
- Rugar Miss Sallie, 624 5th st
- Rugar T W, real estate, 624 5th st
- Rubberg Geo A, trav salesman, 428 8th st (Mae)
- Rundell G E, pass con G N, 814 Farrington ave (Stella)
- RUSSELL'S AUTO GARAGE** (C O Russell prop) automobile livery and repairing, 424 3d st
- Russell Miss Georgia F, bookkeeper C O Russell, 611 3d st
- RUSSELL C O**, farm machinery and automobiles, 611 3d st (Minnie) (see back of map)

First National Bank Capital \$75,000.00
 Surplus \$25,000.00
 E. BAIRD, Pres. F. H. ROULIER, Cashier
 HOWARD WHIPPLE, V. Pres. N. J. MALEY, Asst. Cashier

Your Money's Worth if you trade at **The New York Cash Store**

For which your petitioners will forever pray.

THE RUSSELL RUBIN CHURCH SOCIETY
 OF FAIRBURY COUNTY NORTH DAKOTA

(Set pictures or names for the numbers)

1	Davis Ruben	16
2	J. Goldberg	17
3	Miss Kelly	18
4	Miss Oyes	19
5	Miss Kelly	20
6	Phillip Greenberg	21
7	Miss Greenberg	22
8	Miss Greenberg	23
9		24
10		25
11		26
12		27
13		28
14		29
15		30

Petition to save the cemetery. Note that Davis Rubin signed with an "X."

City Directory from Devils Lake (see Rubin)

Nortz Lumber Co. Lumber, Shingles, Sash and Doors
 Lines, Plaster, Cement, Sewer Pipe
 Office and Yard, West 5th Street,
 W. N. NORTZ, Pres. O. F. WILSON, Mgr. Devils Lake, N. D. - Phone No. 337

CITY DIRECTORY 79

MAHER'S GARAGE | We handle the
 The Largest in North Dakota.... | best of everything

Romeleotes Geo., janitor Baird blk., rms Baird blk.
 Romstad Miss Tillie, stenog'r rms 15, Baird blk
 Roseland Nettie, domestic, rms 123 6th st
 Rosenberger Virginia, nurse Gen'l hospital, res Nurses home
 3rd st.
 Rosenberg H. B., prop. Bijou Conf'y store, res Western
 hotel cor Arnold ave & 4th st (Emily)
 Roth Frank, wks farm, res Mercy hospital
 Roth Henry, res Lake st
 Roth Henry, clk, res Lake st
 Roth Mildred, clk, res Lake st.
 Roth M. C., watchmaker, res Lake st (Cora)
 Rothecker Mrs. E., ret'd res 604 5th st
 Routier Geo., Mgr. Mann's groc. dept. res rms 2-4-6-8 Mann
 blk
 Routier E. F., contractor res 829 4th st (Pauline)
 Routier F. H., Cashier Ramsey Co. Nat'l bank, res 802 3rd
 st. (Myrtle)
 Rowe Mrs. L., farmer res W. 14th st
 Reuben Davis, merchant, res 514 2nd st (Bessie)
 Ruger Miss Sallie, res E. 1st st
 Ruger Miss Rose, farmer res E. 1st st
 Ruger Mrs. Rosa, farmer, res E. 1st st
 Rugroden A., sta. machinist res 624 1st st (Nellie)
 Rusfelt Albert, carpenter res 824 Kelly ave (Inga)
 Russell Mrs. C. A., res 820 8th st
RUSSELL C. O., RUSSELL'S GARAGE, res 611 3rd st
 (Minnie)
RUSSELL Garage, 201-203 5th st. C. O. RUSSELL, prop.
 Rustad Martha, store clk., rms 803 4th st
 Ruston Iver, policeman, res 805 Farrington ave (Sarah)
 Ruston Mrs. Inga., mgr rooming house 402 7th st
 Rustum, Hans., ret'd farmer res 402 4th st
 Richards Mrs. Erma, farmer res 809 Farrington ave

DEVILS LAKE DRUG CO. LEATHER GOODS.
 R. ENGELHARTZ Prop.
 "The Head Store" Devils Lake, N. D. Fancy Stationery, Bulk and Box

For information call at
Great Northern Hotel, M. R. MAHER, Prop.
 and
European Plan— Smith, Thompson & Co.
 Prop. Rooms with bath 125-129 St.

Devils Lake Steam Laundry
 HIGH DRY and FINISHED FAMILY DEPARTMENT
Devils Lake, N. D.

Davis Reuben (sp) merchant, City Directory

Jerome Bought Rubin Building Last Week

The Jerome Candy company of this city which for the last three years has been operating in the Great Northern lunch room building on the Great Northern right of way moved Saturday into the Rubin Furniture building which A. J. Jerome, proprietor, purchased in a deal completed last week.

The new building is located at the corner of 2nd street and 5th avenue and is a two story building 25x100 feet. Plans for remodeling it to suit the requirements of the candy business are now being made and it is thought that the work will be done during the summer. At the present time, Mr. Jerome plans to make the second floor into apartments.

Mr. Jerome started the candy business under its present management four years ago and during the first year occupied the Professor building, then moving to the Great Northern building. He was formerly a partner of J. W. Claire.

Devils Lake World
Wednesday Jan. 14, 1931

Davis Rubin sells his property on 2nd Street 1932

Database search results for Naturalization Records Search Page

Page: 1 of 1

Name	Country	Date	Papers	County	Volume	Page	Comments
Rubin, Beasic	Russia	May 25, 1900	1st	Ramsey	D-4	141	
Rubin, Davis	Russia	November 25, 1898	2nd	Ramsey	F-13	446	
Rubin, Doha	Russia	May 21, 1900	1st	Ramsey	D-4	139	
Rubin, Ida	Russia	May 21, 1900	1st	Ramsey	D-4	139	
Rubin, Max	Russia	March 28, 1919	1st	Ramsey	D-9	052	
Rubin, Moses	Russia	September 05, 1902	1st	Ramsey	D-4	395	
Rubin, Samuel L.	Russia	April 15, 1912	2nd	Ramsey	P-23	015	

[New search](#)

The State Archives and Historical Research Library, SISHRL, Bismarck, can provide copies of naturalization records for all North Dakota counties. A billing of \$5.00 per person requested will be sent with the photocopies.

The Institute for Regional Studies can provide copies ONLY for the counties of Barnes, Cass, Grand, Hanson, Richland, Sargent, Steele and Towner. A billing of \$5.00 per person requested will be sent with the photocopies.

The Elmer B. Robinson Dept. of Special Collections, Chester Price Library, UND, can provide copies ONLY for the counties of Cavalier, Grand Forks, Parkland, Nelson, Ramsey, Towner and Walsh. A billing of \$5.00 per person requested will be sent with the photocopies.

Remember to include your mailing address!

Database maintained and published by
North Dakota Institute for Regional Studies

Page 1 of 1

Data re. Naturalization records.

DAVIS'S SECOND MARRIAGE

Davis married again. His second wife was Rachel Adelman Lieberman. They were divorced after 5 or 6 years. It was rumored that she was interested in his money. In the divorce proceedings, she got the house that Davis owned. He then moved in with his daughter and son-in-law, Herman and Ida Wilensky, my grandparents, and their children in the house on Kelly Avenue.

When Davis was 82 years old, he decided it was time to die. He went to Grand Forks and planned his funeral. He came home, trimmed his mustache, lay down and died. By this time three of his grandchildren were no longer in Devils Lake. Rozella and Pauline were living in Minneapolis and Marian was living in Chicago. The year was 1936.

Rubin Contributes To Jewish Group

Davis Rubin of this city recently made a donation of \$100 to the Sons of Jacob organization of Devils Lake, which organization is composed of the Jewish people of the city, and was organized for the purpose of keeping the Jewish faith alive in the community. Mr. Rubin has lived in Ramsey county for close to 50 years, is 82 years old, and feels that his time on this earth is getting short. Before leaving he said he was making a few donations where he thought it would do the most good.

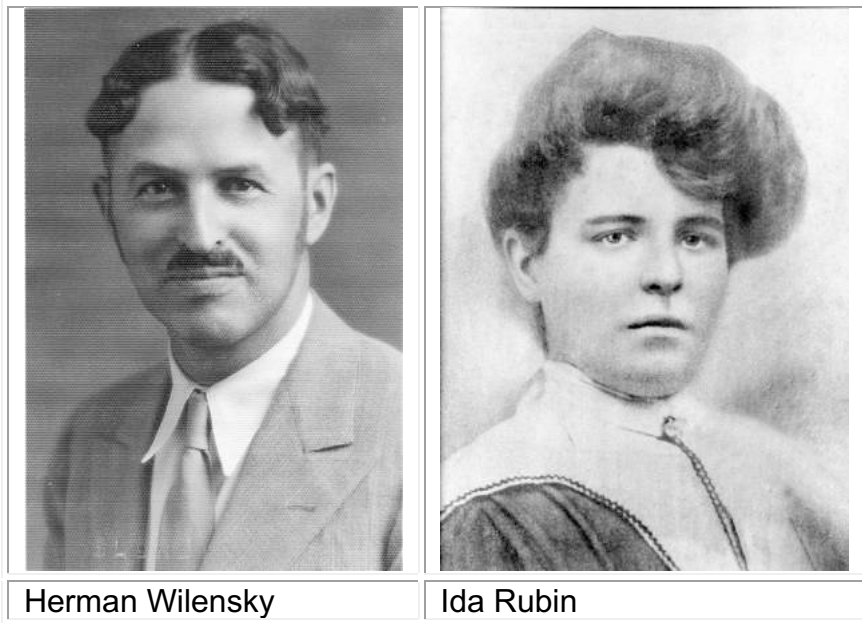


Davis Rubin about 1936



Bessie and Davis Rubin are buried in Grand Forks, North Dakota

WILENSKY BRANCH



My grandfather, Herman Wilensky, came to New York from Leningrad in 1901 and began by working in New York as an apprentice in the sweatshops. He had the unfortunate experience of meeting someone in Liverpool who took his money for a ticket and then disappeared. He worked a year, saved his money again and bought another ticket to New York. I believe he was in his late teens when he came to New York. His ship's record indicates that he sailed from Hamburg and arrived at the Port of New York in May of 1900. He sailed on the Auguste Victoria. He had \$5.00 in cash and was going to be staying with a Lewis Wilensky.

Many people who were working in the sweatshops at that time did come down with consumption (Tuberculosis). Herman was afraid of contracting the disease and so when the opportunity to move west came his way, he left for North Dakota. He appears to have come alone. He filed his naturalization papers in North Dakota on December 3, 1909. Later, two of his brothers, Joe and Isadore, also came to North Dakota for a short time. Isadore filled his Declaration of Intention on April 8, 1918 and Joe filled his Declaration on Intention on December 3, 1912, both in North Dakota.

Page: 1 of 1

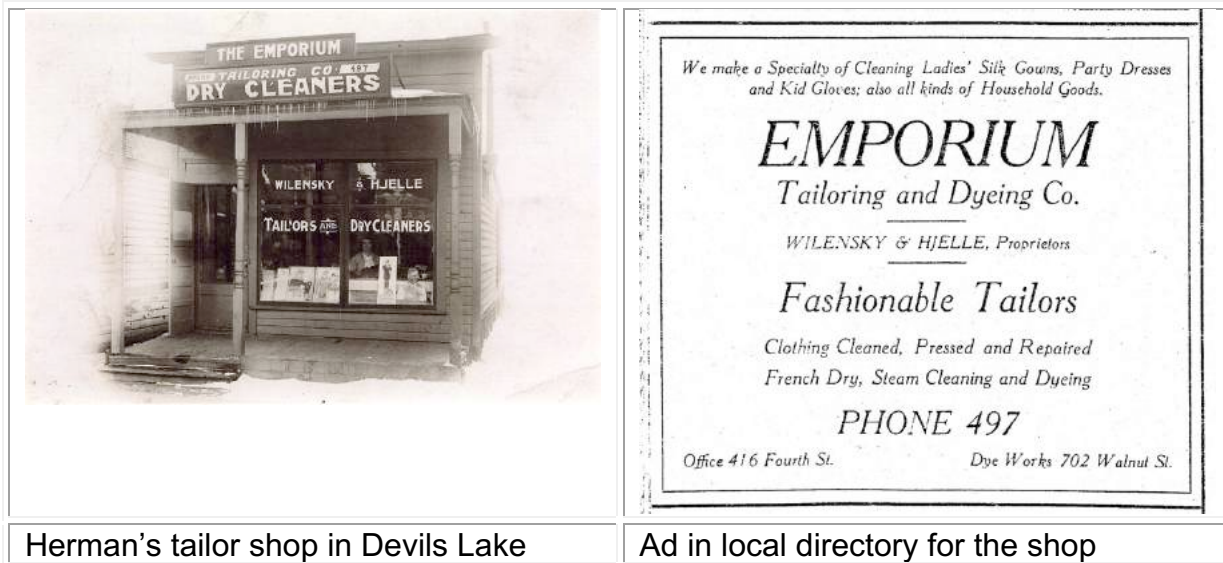
[Return to Naturalization Records Search Page](#)

Name	Country	Date	Papers	County	Volume	Page	Comments
Wilensky, Hyman	Russia	December 03, 1909	2nd	Ramsey	P-21	015	
Wilensky, Isidor	Russia	April 08, 1918	1st	Ramsey	D-8	473	
Wilensky, Joseph	Russia	December 03, 1912	1st	Ramsey	D-8	118	

Filing of naturalization papers for Herman, isador and Joseph

Herman's first job was selling suits. He took measurements, sent all the information to New York where the suits were made up. This was not successful so he went to work on the farms.

At first he got a job on Davis Rubin's farm helping with the harvesting. There was a second free land grant program taking place in North Dakota at this time, 1905. Herman was given a land grant at Tyoga near Williston. Plans to marry my grandmother, Ida, were already in the making. He worked the land during the summer and returned to the Rubin farm during the winter. After five years, he sold the land and moved to Devils Lake where he opened a tailor shop of his own. Unfortunately, he also sold the mineral rights on his homestead property, and later oil was discovered there, but it was too late.



Herman's tailor shop in Devils Lake

Ad in local directory for the shop

At first Ida had a millinery (made hats). Later she expanded her business to ladies' wear. Herman's tailor shop moved to the back and Ida's goods were sold in the front of the store. Ida is pictured in the window of the store in the photo above.

—Lands, Loans and Insurance—
 Devils Lake, N. D.
 STATE AGENTS FOR CONTINENTAL CASUALTY CO.

NORTHERN LAND & LOAN CO.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK

Starkweather, N. Dak.
 Capital Surplus & Undivided Profits ----- \$45,000.00
 "Good bank in a good country"

CITY DIRECTORY 47

W. N. Nortz, Pres. Phone 337 J. A. Donahue, Mgr.

NORTZ LUMBER COMPANY

If it's anything in fuel—we have it!
 NORTZ'S FUEL makes WARM FRIENDS

Visit THE GRAND for an evening
 well spent.

MARTIN RIMESTAD, Pres. IVER IVERSON, V. Pres.
 Y. A. NELSON, Cashier

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK

Hampden, N. D. Capital & Surplus \$30,000.00
 FARM LOANS, INSURANCE OF ALL KINDS
 "A Home Bank For Home People"

- Valentine, Jimmie, round house, 523 Minnewaukan Ave.
- Veldinke, Joe, fireman, res. 914 4th st. (Minnie)
- Volk, Joe, waiter, 723 Flint. (Anna)
- Voeltz, R. W., car inspector, res. 913 Farr. Ave. (Hilda)
- Voeltz, Hugo, car rep res. 913 Farrington Ave.
- Vanderlin, Nethalie, res. 909 Farrington.
- Van Duyn, C. Kneshaw agency, rms. 6 Mann Annex, (Stella)
- Vietch, Mrs. Verna, milliner, res. 808 Kelly Ave.
- Vagstad, Martin, prop. Mission Inn, res. 310 7th st. (Cora)
- Voltz, Rins, blacksmith, res. 309 8th st. (Epefonia)
- Volk Margaret, domestic, res. 575 4th st.

When you think of theatres,
 think of THE GRAND

- Wittkopf, Wm., ret'd farmer, res. 114 6th.
- Wittkopf, Della, student, res. 114 6th st.
- Wittkopf, Wm., student, res. 114 6th st.
- Wohlen, Erwin, machinist, res. 502 3rd st.
- Wilensky, H., Tailor res. 715 Arnold Ave. (Ida)
- Weimer, C. B., Hartz Piano, res. Locke Blk. (Anna)
- Weise, Harry, res. Elks.
- Western Hide & Fur Co. T. L. Ribnick, mgr. 1002 Flint Ave
- Western Hotel, F. Jones, prop. 4th & Arnold.
- Western Union Tel. Co., H. J. Schuminske mgr. 321 3rd st.
- Willard Service Station, 224 4th st.
- Wilson, W. H., insurance, Locke blk.
- Walker, Gladys, bkkpr, State Auto Co., res. 514 Uline Ave.

DUNN & JACOBSON Style Headquarters

Devils Lake, N. D.
 Where Society Brand clothes are sold

CHICAGO STORE M. GLICKSON, Prop.

Devils Lake N. Dak.
 Everything in Men's and Boy's Clothing
 Headlight Overalls, Everwear Underwear

HENRY MOTOR CO.

DISTRIBUTORS SCRIPPS-BOOTH AUTOMOBILES.
 "Satisfaction Our Motto"

Garage

Complete stock of parts and Gene
 DEVILS LAKE-GRAND FOR!

For News,
Advertising,
Printing.

THE JOURNAL

There is but ONE BEST.
In Devils Lake, Ramsey
County and this section
of the state it is—

Eastman KODAKS and Kodak SUPPLIES Devils Lake Drug Co., The Rexall Store

76 DEVILS LAKE CITY DIRECTORY

- Whitford W H (Margaret), works Court House, res 701 E 4th
Wickert Jos (Anna), barber 301 Kelly Ave, res 518 E 3d
Widme Louis, eng G N Hotel, b same
Wikum Andr (Martela), res 617 E 1st
Wilensky Herman, (Wilensky & Hjelle), res 506 E 3d
Wilensky & Hjelle (Herman Wilensky, Olaf Hjelle), proprs Emporium Tailoring Co, 416 E 4th
Wilensky Jos, clk Wilensky & Hjelle, 1 506 E 3d
Wilk John (Maude), car repairer G N Shops, res 224 W 8th
Wilkinson J N, wagonmkr Crawford & Mandy, rms 216 E Williams Arthur, 1 822 School Ave
Williams Ben (Alda), cook C H Shaver, res 612 E 3d
Williams Dora L, 1 822 School Ave
Williams John (Alberta), car repairer G N Shops, res E 9th
Williams Louis, appr G N R H, 1 319 W 12th
Williams Lulu, 1 822 School Ave
Williamson Fred (Daisy), trav saslesman, res 515 E 6th 5th
Wilmes Prosper (Flora), res 818 N Hill Ave
Wilmott R J (Rosella), res 722 N Flint Ave
Wilson Elsie, student, 1 843 E 8th
Wilson J B (Elziada), mngr The Sevilla, res same
Wilson W A, res 101 W 6th
WILSON W H, Local Agt Mutual Life Ins Co of N Y, 21 Locke blk, res 843 E 8th (See right side lines)
Wimmer B J, clk G N Ry, 1 518 E 6th (See right side line)
Winans H G, res 719 E 4th
WINANS MRS H A, Millinery 310 4th, res 719 4th (see adv)
Wineman Building, 400-02 E 4th
Wineman Lillian, 1 601 Arnold Ave
WINEMAN S L (Trina), (Juergens & Wineman), res 601 Arnold Ave
Wise J W (Katie), clk J R Haslam, res 113 W 10th
Witte Richd (Margaret), helper G N Shops, res 611 E 2d
Wittkopf Wm (Gusta), cond G N Ry, res 114 E 6th

RELIABLE INSURANCE

Prompt Adjustments. In Case of Loss, Immediate Settlement.

C. A. DODGE & CO., DEVILS LAKE

Herman Wilensky City Directory res. 506 E. 3rd

Ida Wilensky b. 1886 d. 1949 m. Herman Wilensky b. 1882 d. 1979
They were married on September 5, 1909

CHILDREN

Marian b. 1910 d. 2003
Rozella b. 1912 d. 2005
Pauline b. 1913 d. 2006
Sidney b. 1915 d. 1994
Bess b. 1920 d. 2002



Herman and Ida wedding 1909

Devils Lake Journal, Printer.

RECORD OF MARRIAGES

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA, } ss. IN COUNTY COURT.
County of Ramsey. }

In the Matter of the Application of
Hyman Wilensky Application for Marriage License.
For a Marriage License.

The undersigned, *Hyman Wilensky* of _____ and State of _____
Devils Lake in the County of *Ramsey*
N. D. hereby apply for a MARRIAGE LICENSE for the marriage of
myself of *Devils Lake* of the County of *Ramsey*
and State of *N. D.* and *Ida Rubins*
of *Devils Lake* in the County of *Ramsey* and State of *N. D.*

The said *Hyman Wilensky* represents that the said *Ida*
and *Ida Rubins*
are both unmarried, of sound mind, not related within the degrees of consanguinity proscribed by law, and may lawfully
contract and be joined in marriage, and after being duly sworn, depose as follows in answer to the following interro-
gatories:

Question: What is the age of said *Hyman Wilensky* ?
Answer: *26* years.

Question: What is the age of said *Ida Rubins* ?
Answer: *25* years.

Question: Are the parties for whom application is made for Marriage License in any way related? If so, to what
extent? Answer: *no*

Question: Has either of the parties ever been married? If so, what of the one to whom he or she was married.
Answer: *no*

Question: If a decree of divorce has been granted, when, and by what court?

I, *Hyman Wilensky*
Subscribed and swears to before me this _____ day of _____
A. D. 1929.

John F. Henry
Judge of the County Court.

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA, } ss. IN COUNTY COURT.
County of Ramsey. }

Marriage license application



Ida Rubin Wilensky and Marian



Herman & Ida Wilensky with Marian

**Felines Homeless
As Cafe Closes;
Seek New Home**

Three little kittens in the story book lost their mittens—but in Devils Lake four or five cats had even greater misfortunes and lost their home when the Chicago cafe discontinued business, according to Herman Wilensky, proprietor of the Emporium.

Left homeless, the cats entered the back door of the Emporium and started "batching" it in the basement when the cold weather forced them from the streets. Of assorted colors and breeds, the cats ineligible for government relief are keeping temporary quarters and catch an occasional mouse for food.

Anyone desiring one of the orphan felines is invited to call at the Emporium where they may select one or all of the cats to take home for adoption.

The Chinese restaurant owners left the city without making provisions for the care and keep of the four legged members of the kitchen force.



Devils Lake News
Paper Article

One of the Wilensky's houses in Devils Lake, ND
This house is on Second Street. Next door to Davis and Bessie.

Wilensky children pictured below.



Marian, Pauline and Rozella



Rozella, Bess, Pauline, Sidney



Rozella, Bess, Pauline, Sidney plus others

The family lived in four different houses in Devils Lake. The first three were rented and the last was purchased. The first house was on Second Street next to the Greenhouse. The house was on the next block from Bessie and Davis Rubin's house and also near Davis' furniture store. They were living there when Bessie died. The children spent a lot of time in the home of the grandparents. The second house was a three-bedroom home on Arnold Street and the third house was a nice big one on Fifth Street with lots of bedrooms. The last house and the only one they owned was on Kelly Avenue.

The Kelly house was distinguished by its almost total lack of closets, with four daughters that must have been quite a trick. The house had running water, but it couldn't be used for drinking. One of Sidney's chores was to bring the drinking water from the pump on a nearby corner or from the Kesslers, the neighbors across the street, who had a good artesian well, or from the courthouse. Grandpa Rubin lived with the family after his divorce. On Saturday evenings he would settle into the bathroom for his weekly bath, which would take four hours. It was unfortunate if anyone needed to use the bathroom during this ritual. Such an event would necessitate a visit to one of the neighbors. Rain water was collected in a cistern and used for hair washing.

The family also had a boarder, named Mrs. Prosser. She had a very successful son who was a Broadway producer. The family had some connection to Ida. Mrs. Prosser had rented a room in the previous house, so when they moved, she moved with them. Mrs. Prosser did not eat her meals with the family. When she could no longer live alone, her son came for her. He found under her bed all of the gorgeous gifts of clothing that he had sent her, but she had never worn. Boarders were very common.

All the Wilensky girls shared one bedroom and one closet. Max built the only closet in the room. The design of the house was such that Mrs. Prosser had to walk through the room that Sid and Zadie Rubin shared in order to get to her room. The house had a big kitchen and a big round table. As was common for the times, there was an icebox with ice delivered by the iceman, a coal furnace with a coal shoot for shoveling the coal, a milkman who put the milk directly into the refrigerator and of course, no one ever locked the door.



Adelmans and Wilenskys on Porch 1910



Baila Calof



Calofs and some Wilenskys



Abe Calof and Herman Wilensky

In the group picture above, Ida Wilensky is wearing the big hat in the back, Joe Wilensky is wearing the cap in the back and some of the Wilensky children are mixed in with the Calof children. The picture was taken in 1913, so the two Wilensky children would be Marian and Rozella as a baby.



Ida and Herman Wilensky



Ida Wilensky



Herman and Ida Wilensky

When Pauline, my mother, was about 12 years old she went with her mother to the World's Fair in Chicago. They stayed with her cousin Hinda. She remembers the big show, and the rides. They went to a baseball game and enroute to the game, while traveling on the elevated train someone tapped them on the shoulder. It was her cousin Johnny Adelman from Winnipeg.

The children babysat for neighbors. Pauline worked for a lawyer as a secretary, but she quit because he kept making advances. She worked at Penny's Department Store in the business office and then later when she moved to Minneapolis, she was able to get a job again in the business office at Penny's in Minneapolis. Marian sewed and did book work for her father. The girls always said that they would leave Devils Lake when they could and they did.

Itinerant Jewish men would come through town and teach Hebrew. In exchange the students would teach English. Sidney was Bar Mitzvahed in Grand Forks. Zadie Rubin prepared him. My mother, Pauline, remembers that on more than one occasion, she was given the task of teaching the Hebrew teacher some English. She remembers that their English always improved to a much greater extent than did her Hebrew. Other salesmen would come through and would often eat with the family.

The family continued to get their kosher meat from Grand Forks and Minot. Ida continued to keep kosher and change dishes for Passover. When they couldn't get meat they ate fish and milkes (dairy dishes). Herman had little interest in keeping kosher and was known to sneak out to eat and come back with a toothpick in his teeth, even on Yom Kippur when everyone else was fasting. They kept a kosher cow for Passover. They fed him potatoes and then they could use the milk from the cow. Keeping kosher was important to Zaidie Rubin and the family complied. The cow was kept in a farm just beyond the house on Kelly Street.

Herman was very socialistic in his thinking. He read the Forward regularly which was printed in New York in Yiddish. In Minneapolis he belonged to the Workman's Circle. He took more interest in Judaism at the end of his life, attending services regularly, but he really never gave up his socialistic roots.

In Devils Lake, the family had a maid in the house who was paid \$2.00 a week. The help tended to be Indians, who were native to that part of North Dakota. The children walked to school. On the way to school one particular day, they passed a thermometer at the Hotel. It read 54 degrees below zero. They hadn't been especially cold until they read the temperature and then they decided they were freezing. Pauline also remembers when President Roosevelt came to town, a major recollection in their early lives.

Devils Lake was built on the shores of a salt lake. During the drought it dried up. The dust storms were so bad they had to wear scarves over their faces. Later, the Missouri River was diverted, bringing water into the area. In recent years, the lake has risen and is overflowing its shores.

All of the children finished high school in Devils Lake except for Bess who graduated from North High School in Minneapolis. Pauline's high school class was very small, thirty-five students and she was the only Jew. She was also the Valedictorian. All of the Wilensky girls were sent to Minneapolis after graduating from High School, with the intent of having them meet potential Jewish mates. Rozella was 18 months older than Pauline. She waited until Pauline graduated from high school and then the two of them moved to Minneapolis together. Marian lived with Mac Calof and his wife when she moved to the cities and was living there when his first wife died. Pauline and Rozella lived with the Salzbergs for a month. They were a family that had moved away earlier from Devils Lake. Mrs. Salzberg found a home with a Mrs. Hoffman where the girls could rent a room. She was very good to them. They paid the families for their room and board. They stayed there until Herman and Ida moved to Minneapolis. Rozella worked at Woolworths and Pauline worked in the JC Penny business office until she married. Bess also worked at Penney's. Pauline managed to get several of her friends and acquaintances jobs at Penney's when jobs were scarce.

Herman and Ida Wilensky moved to Minneapolis in the 1930's when the depression and a period of drought combined to make living conditions extremely difficult in Devils Lake. Davis Rubin died in 1936 and it is probable that Herman and Ida made the move to Minneapolis after that. By that time, all but one of their children had made the move before them. In Minneapolis, Herman continued to do tailoring, first in a store near the University of Minnesota campus and later in his home. Initially they rented a house on 10th and Penn in North Minneapolis. The family liked being in the Twin Cities where there were other Jewish families and one could even hear Yiddish spoken.



Wilensky house on Penn Ave. No, Mpls. 1930s



Ida Wilensky



Bess, Pauline and Rozella



Herman, Bess, Ida



Rozella, Ida, Bess 1944



Rozella and Pauline



Herman, Dianne, Ida Morgan Ave. 1944

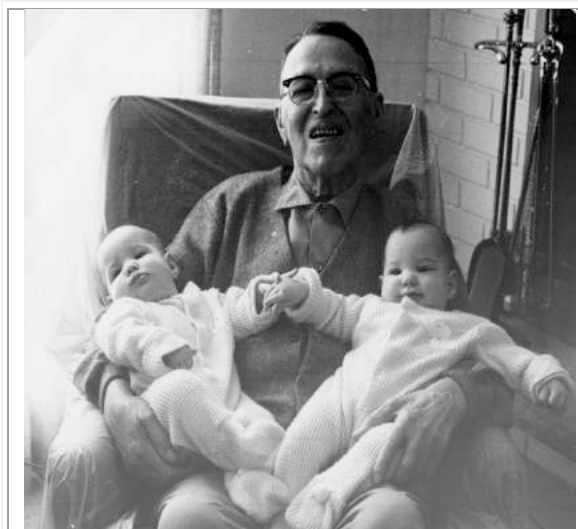


Pauline, Marian, Mother Ida, Bess, Rozella



Sid & Mother Wilensky 1938

Ida died in the mid 1940s. Her diagnosis was "hardening of the arteries." Herman lived for many years remaining in his apartment on 10th and Morgan Ave. North and then later living with his daughter Bess and her family. He then moved into his own apartment again on Penn Ave. near the Beth El Synagogue and went into a nursing home very late in life. He continued doing tailoring all of the time that he lived independently. He died in 1972. He was in his mid-90s and still had a full head of dark black hair.



Herman with Pam and Lesli Siegel 1969



Herman Wilensky



Ida Wilensky



Herman and Ida are buried in the Workman's Circle Cemetery in Minneapolis

THE WILENSKY CHILDREN

Marian Wilensky Ovitz b. 1910 d. 2003

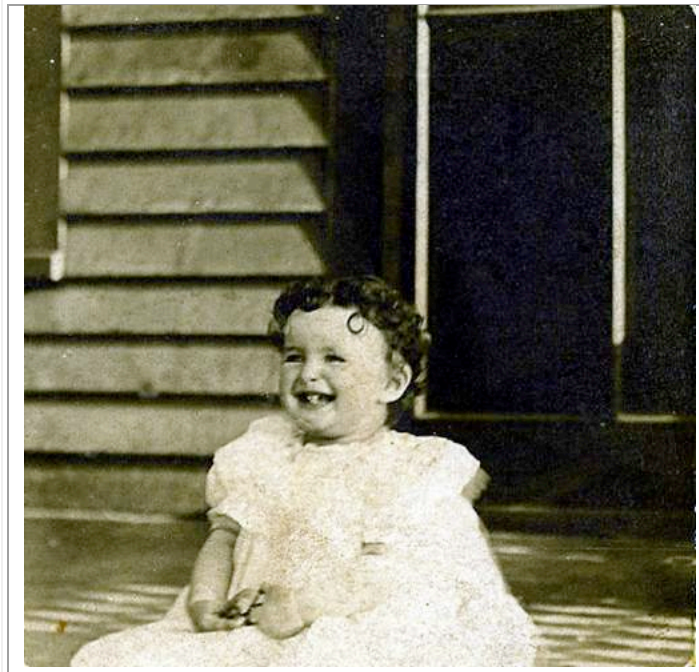
Marian moved to Chicago from Devils Lake and then back to Minneapolis where she found work. She married Irving Ovitz and then she moved permanently to Chicago where we would visit often. Marian and Irv didn't have children of their own, so they doted on all of the nieces and nephews, especially Patti who also lived in Chicago. In later years, they retired to Pompano Beach, Florida where Marian lived until 2003. Irving died in 1994. Uncle Irv is remembered for taking us to the zoo and the museums all over Chicago and for the wonderful letters that he wrote to us for all special occasions. I was supposed to look more like Marian than any of the other nieces.



Marian Wilensky b. 1910



Marian Wilensky



Marian Wilensky as a baby



Marian Wilensky



Marian Wilensky



Marian Wilensky



Marian's birthday party



Marian Wilensky on Kelly Ave



Marian Wilensky and friend on Kelly Ave



Marian on Kelly Ave



Marian with cousin Rose Adelman

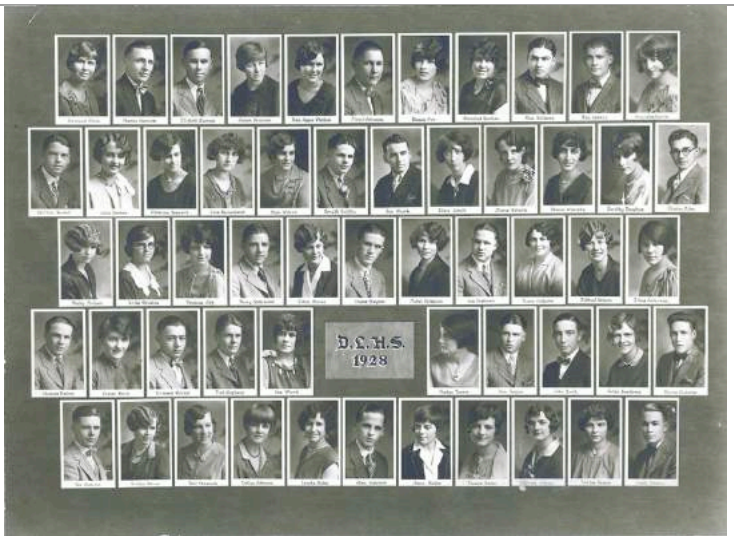


Marian and friends



Marion Wilensky

Marian graduates high school



**ENTERTAIN FOR
MARION WILENSKY**

Mrs. John Whalen and Mrs. Wilbur Olson entertained sixteen guests at a dessert bridge at the home of the former Friday evening in honor of Miss Marion Wilensky, who is leaving for Chicago Sunday.

Hallowe'en decorations were used throughout the house. Four tables of bridge were in play during the evening with Mrs. Lloyd Nelson and Mrs. Fred Wilson receiving score honors. Miss Wilensky was presented with a guest of honor gift.

**MARION WILENSKY HONORED
AT DINNER PARTY**

The Misses Bessie and Minnie Mersky entertained a group of friends at a handkerchief shower last evening complimentary to Miss Marion Wilensky, who is soon leaving for Chicago. A seven o'clock dinner was served after which two tables of bridge were in play. Miss Esther Cantor received score honors for cards.

Honored at Party—Celia Mae Lang entertained a group of friends at her home Monday evening in honor of Marion Wilensky who will leave Sunday for Chicago. Three tables of bridge were in play during the evening with high score honors awarded to Mrs. Dennie Doheny and Mrs. L. G. Peterson. The honored guest received a gift from the group.

Marian Wilensky leaves for Chicago with entertainment in her honor



Marian in Devils Lake



Marian in Devils Lake



Marian in Devils Lake

is Announced



AUDREY VERLO, left, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Verlo, has chosen October 6 for her marriage to Mr. Earl son of Mr. and Mrs. William F. Petter. The ceremony will ce in Trinity Lutheran church.—Herman Larson photo. engagement of Miss Marian Wilensky to Mr. Irving Ovitz go is announced by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Herman r, 901 Penn avenue north.—David Bank photo.

Marriage announcement

Mr. and Mrs. Herman Wilensky
request the honour of your presence
at the marriage of their daughter
Marian
to
Mr. Irving Ovitz
on Sunday, the third day of December
Nineteen hundred and thirty-nine
at seven o'clock in the evening
Nine hundred one Penn Avenue North
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Reception
following ceremony

Wedding Invitation



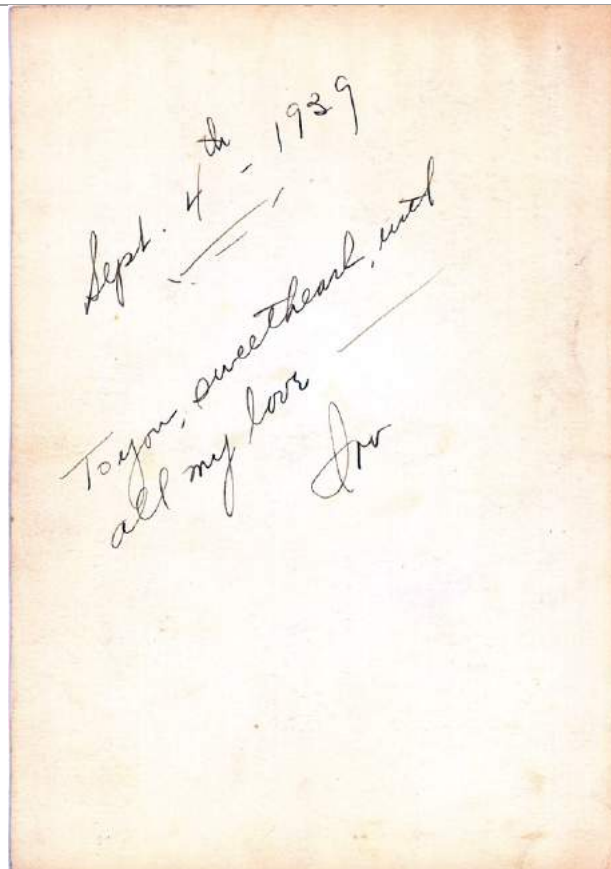
Marian and Irving Ovitz Wedding



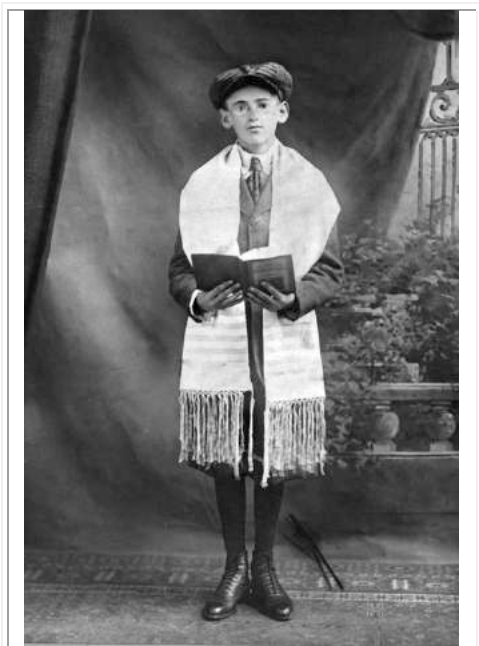
Marian Wilensky Ovitz



Irving Ovitz in the army



Love note to Marian



Irving's Bar Mitzvah picture



Marian Wilensky Ovitz 1940



Marian and Irving Ovitz



Marian and Irv 1942

Rozella Wilensky Karol b. 1912 d. 2005

Rozella married Arnold Karol who was originally from Minneapolis, but they lived their married life in Chicago. Arnold was in the Scrap Steel Business. They had one daughter Patti who was born in 1946. Rozella stayed in Chicago all of her married life and only moved to Las Vegas in later years when she needed to be close to her daughter. Arnold died in 1993. Patti married Bob Sandler and they currently live in Arizona near children. The Karols and the Ovitzes were our out-of-town relatives who we visited as often as we could. Our adventure was taking the train to Chicago to visit our aunts and uncles and cousin. Aunt Rozella was our very own Emily Post. She placed a lot of importance on how we looked and what we wore. She herself always looked perfect, in high heel shoes and beautiful suits. Rozella worried a lot about me. Since I was the oldest, she thought I should get married first and here I was busy going to college and then graduate school and getting older with each passing year. But, I pulled it off and was still the first cousin to marry. Rozella was probably the sister who paid the most attention to neatness. We used to joke that if you were sleeping at their house, which of course we all did when we were in Chicago, and you got up to go to the bathroom in the middle of the night, she would make the bed before you got back in.



Marian and Rozella 1913



Pauline and Rozella



Pauline and Rozella
with Ida and Dora



Pauline W. Ziskin, Rae
Adelman Beugen, Rose
Adelman Klass, Rozella W.
Karol



Rozella, Mother Ida, Bess 1944



Rozella's graduation photo



Rozella and Arnold's wedding



Rozella and Arnold Karol 1948



Rozella and Arnold Karol



Rozella and Arnold early days



Rozella on her honeymoon



Rozella and Arnold Karol



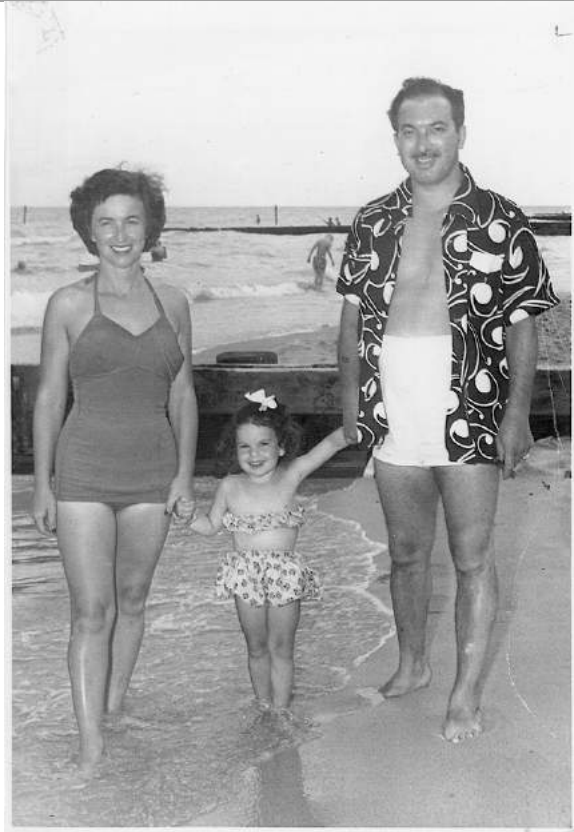
Ovitzes and Karols at dinner



Rozella and Arnold Karol 1972



Rozella, Arnold and Patti on Queen Ave.
(Ziskins House)



Rozella, Patti and Arnold 1949 - Florida



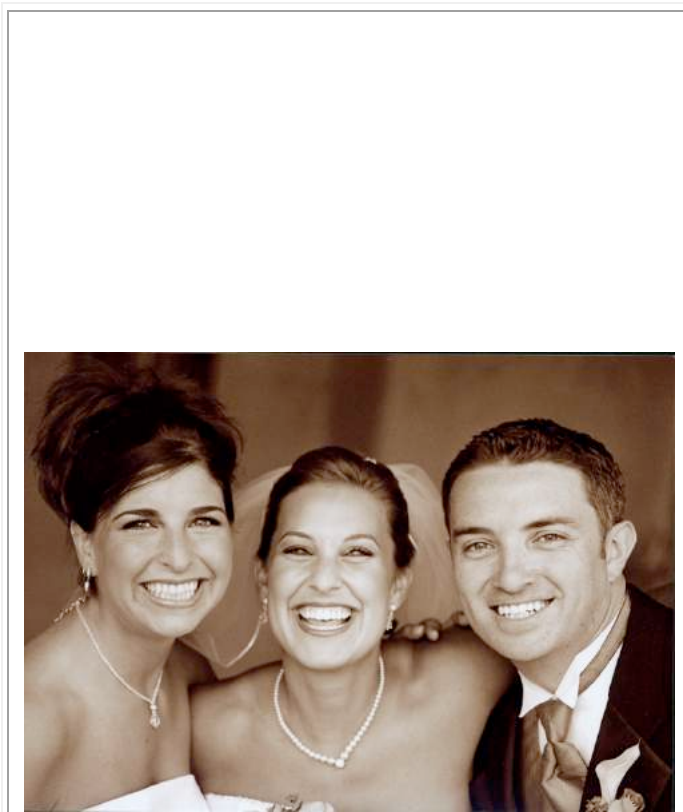
Rozella Karol and Patti -
Florida



Patti and Bob Sandler wedding
1969



Herman Wilensky and brother
Izzie Wilensky at wedding



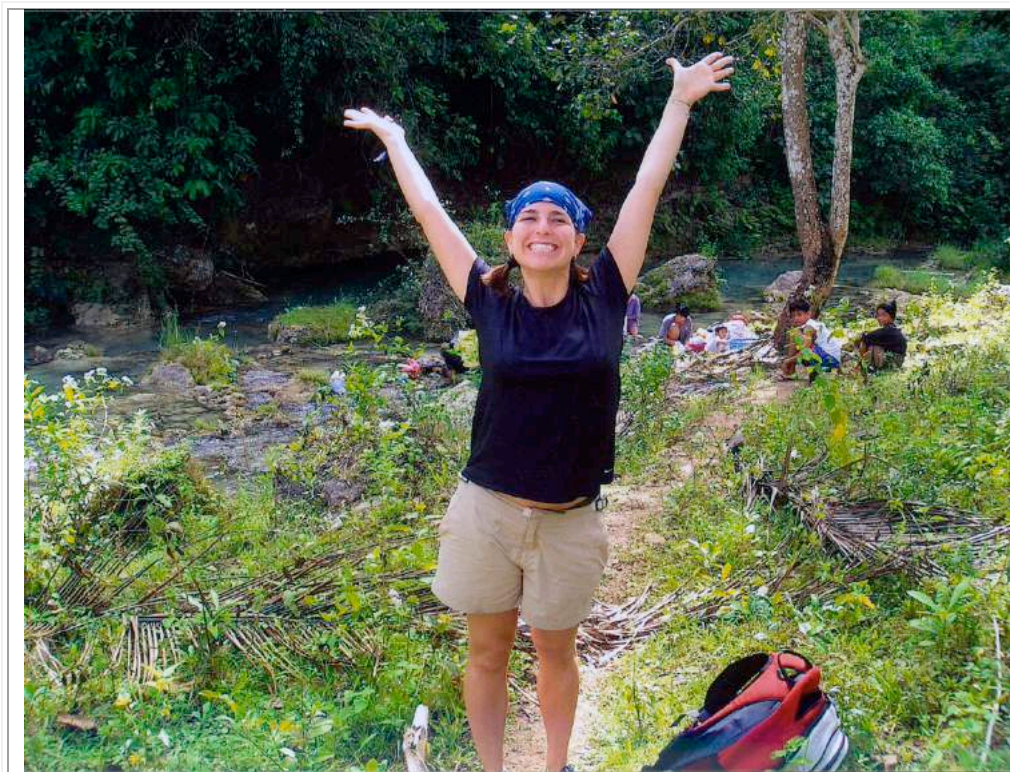
DeDe Sandler, Kim Sandler Earnhart and
Steve Earnhart 2002



Patti and Bob Sandler 2002



The Sandlers: Bob, DeDe, Patti, and Kim and Steve Earnhart- 2006



DeDe Sandler – Peace Corp Philippines 2005



Alexa Earnhart 2005



Patti Sandler and granddaughter Alexa 2006



Alexa Earnhart – December 2006

Karol

Rozella S. Karol, age 92, died June 9, 2005. Preceded in death by husband, Arnold J. Karol. Survived by daughter and son-in-law, Patti & Robert Sandler; sister, Pauline Ziskin; grandchildren, Kim & Steve Earnhart and DeDe Sandler; great granddaughter, Alexa Jae. Earnhart; brother-in-law & sister-in-law, Saul and Janet Amdur and many loving nieces, nephews and friends. Graveside service SUNDAY 3:30 PM at BETH EL MEMORIAL PARK, 38th & Winnetka Ave. Crystal. In lieu of flowers, donations preferred to Bruce Barenbaum Scholarship Fund c/o Beth El Synagogue or donor's favorite charity.

Arr. Hodroff-Epstein
612-871-1234

Rozella's obituary notice

Pauline Wilensky Ziskin b. 1913

My mom and dad, Pauline and David Ziskin were married September 19, 1937. My father kept thinking that he would be drafted, but it never happened. His first business was Silent Sales and he worked for a man named Benny Cohn. The business was slot machines. Eventually the business closed and my Dad went on to a variety of other jobs, such as the owner of the Famous Bar on Lake Street, selling Muntz TVs when they were a brand new novelty, selling house siding etc. Eventually he bought a grocery store on Lyndale Avenue North called Tony's. We all worked in the store from time to time. When the city of Minneapolis took the property in order to widen Lyndale Avenue, Dad bought a store on 34th and Hennepin called Von's and so he was a grocer until he retired. He said he got tired of being held up and I suppose that was true. Fortunately I was never there when the store was robbed.

Both he and my Mom were great golfers. They were founding members of Brookview Country Club. Brookview was eventually sold in order to be a public course and they then joined Rolling Green which followed Brookview and then later Minneapolis Country Club because it was closer to the house on Texas Ave.

The family lived on the North Side of Minneapolis until my brother Alan graduated from North High. Our first home was an apartment building on 19th and Vincent. The Bank Family owned the building. My memory of the building was that all the kids who lived there, the Usans and Ricky Abrams and Marshall Bank -- would run around the halls and crawl into the little doors that had been designed for milk. My other memory is that the garbage burner was on the roof of the building and it would occasionally catch fire. The sparks would fall and light the outside of the windows on fire. Of course the fire department would be called and we would watch from the windows. I learned to ride my two-wheel bicycle in the big circular driveway behind that building.



Apartment on 19th and Vincent, Mpls

When I was in 2nd grade we moved to 1526 Queen Ave. North. By that time my brother was 2. At first he and I shared a room. Eventually I shared a room with my sister Ellen who was born in 1956, and her doll, Toodles who had a bassinet at the bottom of the bed.

We had a three bedroom, one bathroom house and we thought it quite adequate. I remember our yard had apple trees and peony bushes. We lived across the street from Willard Elementary School, and on the next block from the Talmud Torah. I didn't go to Hebrew school but my brother and sister did.



House at 1526 Queen, Minneapolis

My parents moved away from Queen Avenue in 1964 and they lived on Texas Ave. in St. Louis Park until moving to a condo at Greenbrier Apartments in Minnetonka. During this same time period my mother became a real estate agent and was very successful at her new career.

In 1978, my parents bought a condo near Ft. Lauderdale and they spent many happy years there playing golf and being with friends. I especially remember the oranges off the orange trees and the wonderful orange juice that those oranges made. The area had once been an orange grove.

The following is excerpted from an interview that Dana Steinman (Pauline's youngest granddaughter) did:

Dana: *What was it like growing up in North Dakota?*

Pauline: *It was a simple life, there wasn't a lot of activity. We sort of amused ourselves and we had a small schoolhouse. We walked to school and we played with each other. There was no television. I don't even think we had a radio, but we read and we amused ourselves.*

Dana: *What was it like to leave home at such a young age?*

Pauline: *I was lonesome. My sister, Rozella, went with me. We were going down to Minneapolis to work and my mother made Rozella wait until I graduated so we both could go together. She was a year ahead of me. So, then we stayed with friends of my mother's and we both worked and eventually we moved to stay with another friend. We rented a room until my mother and father moved down there about a year later. We were lonesome, but we made some friends and the people we knew were nice and we were kind of excited to be in the city too.*

Dana: *Did you want to go to college?*

Pauline: *Yes, I did.*

Dana: *What stopped you?*

Pauline: *Money. We didn't have any money, there was a big depression. There had been a crop failure out in North Dakota, a drought actually. My folks closed up their business and moved to Minneapolis and we all had to pitch in and help. I wanted to go to college. I had been valedictorian of my class and I had a scholarship, but I couldn't even do that because I still had to have some money.*

Dana: *Did you know a lot of people who went to college?*

Pauline: *No, I really didn't. Boys mostly that I met, that were working their way through college. I didn't know many girls who were going to college, but we were all about the same – without any money.*



Pauline as a toddler



Pauline as a baby in a classic pose



Pauline as a tomboy



Pauline Age 2



Pauline

Pauline as a baby



Pauline's high school graduation



High School graduation class –second from the right, middle row



Pauline and Dave Wedding Pictures



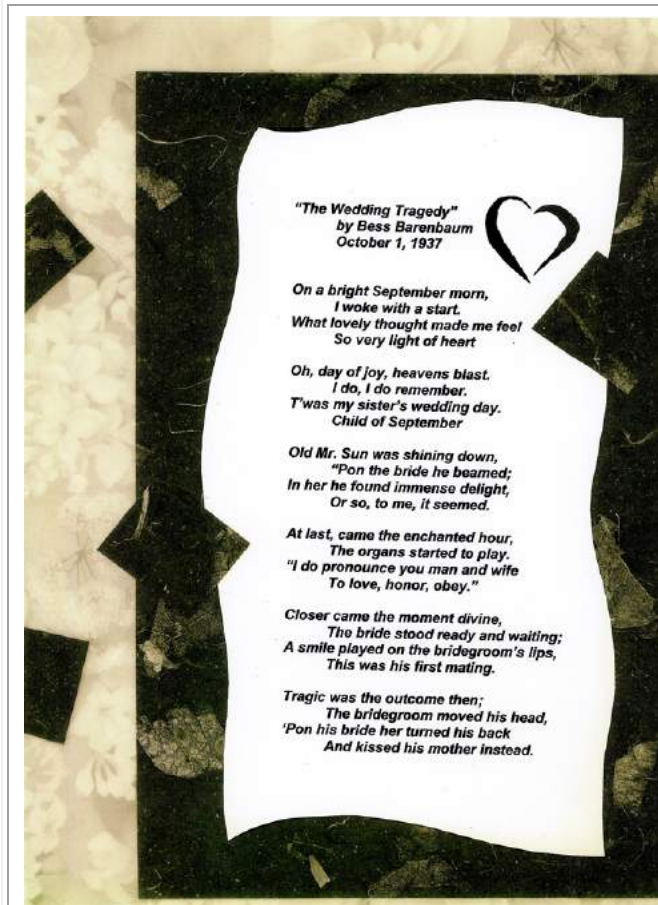
Pauline and Dave Ziskin wedding picture



Pauline's bridal picture



Ben Friedman, Marian Ovitz, Pauline and Dave



The Wedding Tragedy by B. Barenbaum



Pauline with parents Ida and Herman Wilensky



Dave and Pauline Ziskin
As newlyweds



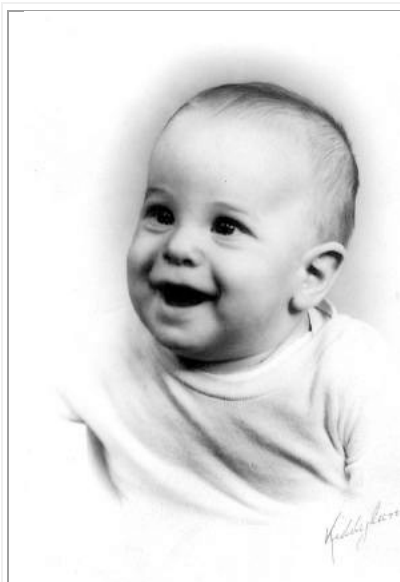
Dave and Pauline – early years of marriage



Pauline with baby Dianne



Dianne a bit older



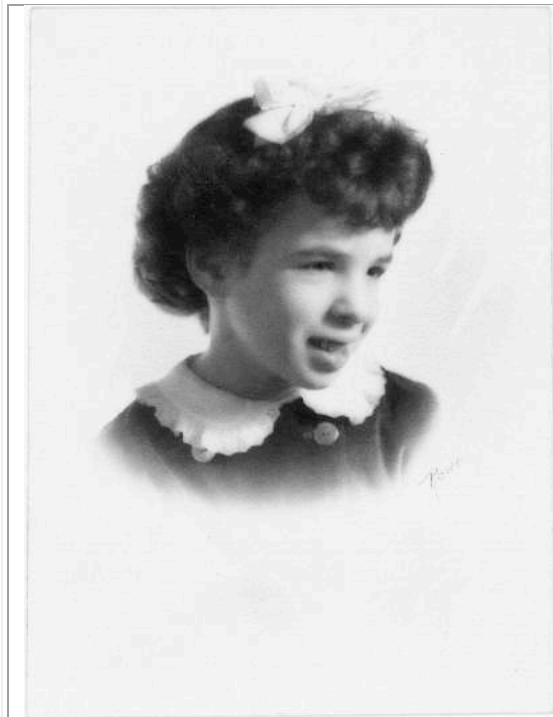
Alan 1946



Bruce, Patti Alan 1949



Dianne, Alan, Patti 1949



Dianne age 3 or 4



Alan around 2



Ellen 1955



Ellen age 2 or 3



Alan, Dianne, Ellen, Pauline
1954



Von's Superette 34th and
Hennepin Ave. Mpls



Public art on outside wall



1963 – Herman Wilensky, Dianne, Dave, Ellen, Pauline, Alan Ziskin – Dianne's graduation from the University of Minnesota



Pauline and Dave Ziskin@1986



Bonnie, Pauline, Dave and Alan Ziskin



Dianne Ziskin and Leighton Siegel
wedding 1966



Bonnie Chez and Alan Ziskin
wedding in 1972



Ellen Ziskin Steinman wedding - 1979



Ellen Ziskin graduation from
High school 1971



Ellen and Pauline 1984



Ellen's Bat Mitzvah 1966



Dianne, Pauline, Ellen, Ilene Wash DC
1967



Ilene, Pauline, Ellen, Dianne
New York 1967



Washington, DC. 1967
Ellen, Dianne, Ilene Pauline



London, 1993 Dianne & Pauline

My sister Ellen, my cousin Ilene Barenbaum Cohen and my mother Pauline visited us several times while we lived in Baltimore, Maryland from 1966-1970. We went to Washington, DC and New York City. Later, my mother and I went to London. Mom said she had never been outside of the United States and she wanted to do that at least once.

Still later she went on several cruises, once or twice with my brother and his family and a couple of times with friends.



Dana, Shelby & Maury Steinman
with Baubi Pauline and Pam Siegel 1992



Jeff Siegel and Pauline Florida 1995

More of Pauline's Family Photos



Ilene Barenbaum Cohen, Patti, Karol Sandler
Ellen Ziskin, Dianne Ziskin Siegel 2005



Pauline Ziskin, Dianne Siegel,
Bess Barenbaum



Pauline and Dave's 50th wedding anniv
Pauline, Dave,Ziskin, Arnold and Rozella
Karol, Tony and Bess Barenbaum



Pauline Ziskin and Dianne Siegel



Shower for Pam Siegel 1996
Dianne, Pam Siegel, Pauline Ziskin
Lesli Siegel, Ellen Ziskin



Ilene Cohen, Pauline Ziskin, Ellen Ziskin
Dianne Siegel, Patti Sandler 2005



1998 Pauline's 85th Birthday
Ellen Dianne, Pauline and Alan



Dana, Maury, Shelby Steinman 2005



Pauline Wilensky Ziskin 1940s and 2000 – engagement photo on left; picture taken at Kim Sandler's wedding in Phoenix



Adam Ziskin, Baubie Pauline, Amy Ziskin
2002 At Dana Steinman's Bat Mitzvah



Dana, Maury, Pauline and Shelby
Scottsdale



Adam Ziskin, Leighton Siegel, Jon Passman, Dianne Siegel, Pauline Ziskin, Pam Passman, Abe Passman, Jeff Siegel, Andrea Siegel, Lesli Marasco, Mike Marasco 2003



Ziskin family – Bonnie, Amy, Adam, Alan
2005



Alan Ziskin, Dianne Siegel, Pauline
Ziskin, Ellen Ziskin 2003



92nd birthday with Great Grands-Jordan Passman Andrew Marasco,
Sophia Marasco, Eve Passman and Abe Passman



Mike and Lesli Marasco, Jon and Pam Passman, Pauline Ziskin, Dianne and Leighton Siegel, Andrea and Jeff Siegel at Bradley and Gina Cohen's wedding - 2005

Sidney Wilensky b. 1915 d. 1994

Sidney married Shirley Claren and they lived in Minneapolis. They had a son, Howard b. 1954 and Shirley had a daughter Ilana by a first marriage. Sidney was born in Devils Lake in 1915 and like his siblings moved to the Twin Cities after High School. One of the Sid stories was about a car – he bought a car when he moved to Minneapolis. He had no idea how to drive, but everyone piled into the car anyway, and away they all went. Apparently it was just see one, do one. He worked as a bookkeeper and had other administrative jobs before serving in the Army in WW II. After the war, Sidney and his brother in law, Tony Barenbaum opened Ne Plus Ultra which was one of the first full service grocery stores in the city. It was located at 14th and Nicollet in Minneapolis. Both Sid and Tony were very helpful in getting my father started in the grocery business. They sold the store in the 1960s. Sid then operated a small grocery in Burnsville before buying a grocery store in St. Louis Park near the old Lincoln Del on Minnetonka Ave. It was called Handee Food Center and he owned and operated it until 1977. My uncles, Sid and Tony taught me the fine art of cashiering and allowed me to work at Ne Plus Ultra. I later put my cashiering skills to good use in my father's grocery store. Being the only boy in a family of five children, Sid was always special in the eyes of his sisters. He was rather a picky eater and they catered to his every food preference. Sidney died at age 79 of emphysema in 1994 and is buried in the Workman's Circle cemetery near his parents.

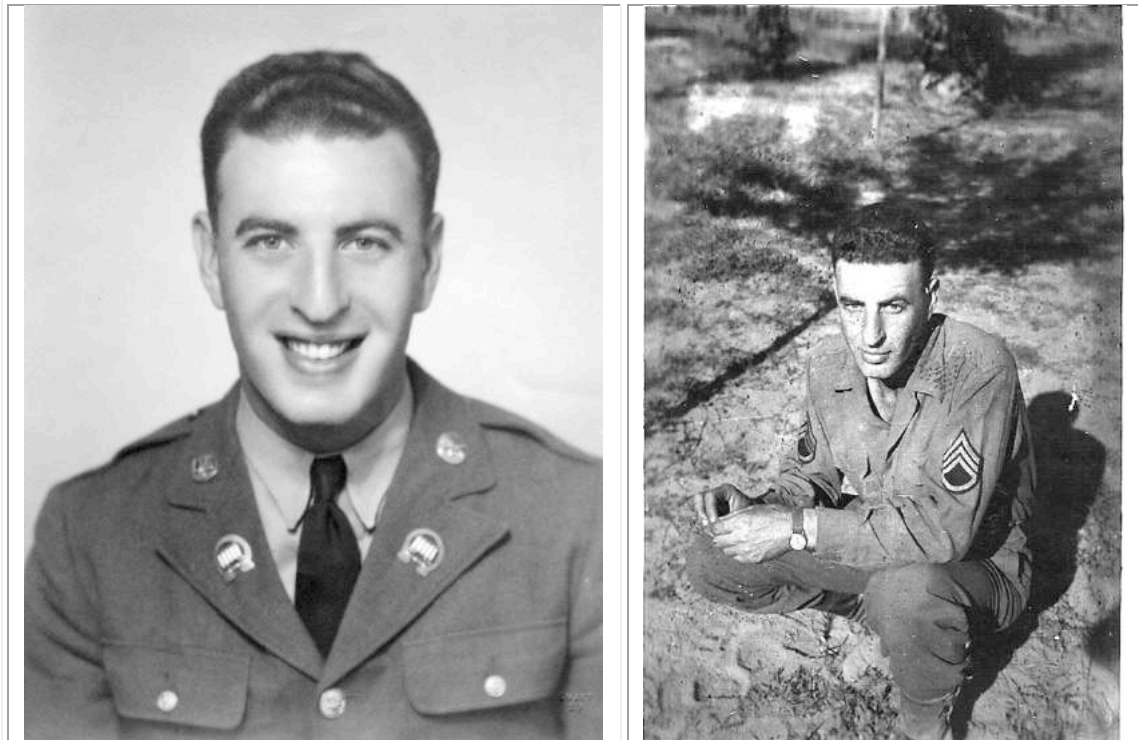
I remember the year he bought me a parakeet for my birthday. I loved that bird and Tweety became a member of our family for many years.



Sidney in High School sports



Sidney Wilensky's high school graduation picture



Sid's army days



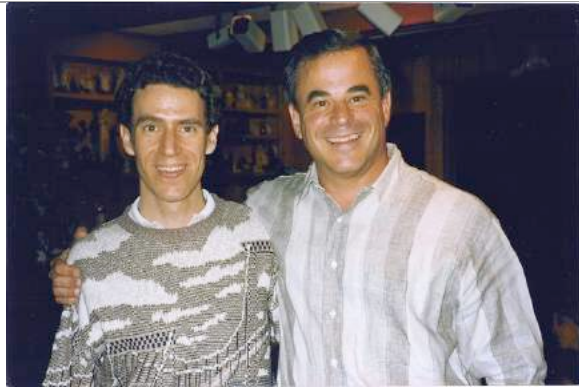
Sid & Shirley's wedding

standing: Shirley - Sid Wilensky, Arnold Karol, Tony Barenbaum, Chaja Wilensky (Aunt), Irving Ovitz, Dave Ziskin
 Seated: Rozella Karol, Bess Barenbaum, Marian Ovitz, Pauline Ziskin (pregnant with Ellen)

Sid and Shirley's wedding – standing: Shirley and Sid Wilensky, Arnold Karol Tony Barenbaum, Herman Wilensky, Irving Ovitz, Dave Ziskin sitting: Rozella Karol, Bess Barenbaum, Marian Ovitz, Pauline Ziskin (pregnant With Ellen) 1953



Tony Barenbaum and Sid Wilensky



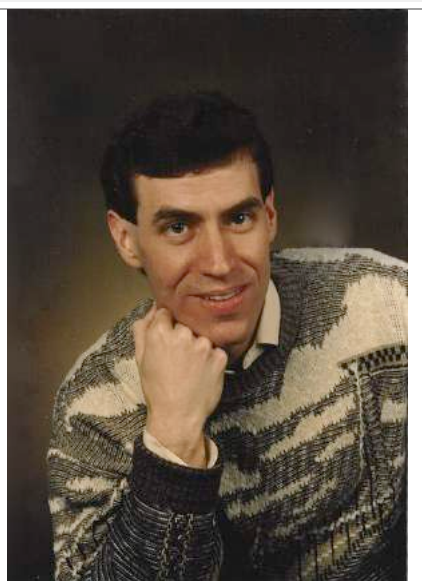
Howard Wilensky and Alan Ziskin



Shirley and Sid Wilensky



Howard Wilensky age 2 or 3



Howard age 36

Sid R. Wilensky, 79; was owner of Twin Cities grocery stores

Sid R. Wilensky, 79, owner of several grocery stores in the Twin Cities area, died of complications from lung disease Sunday at St. Louis Park Plaza Healthcare Center.

Wilensky, of St. Louis Park, was born in Devils Lake, N.D., and moved to Minneapolis in 1938. He worked as a bookkeeper and had other administrative jobs before serving in the Army during World War II. After the war he returned to Minneapolis and with his brother-in-law, Tony Barenbaum, started Ne Plus Ultra grocery store on 14th St. and Nicollet Av. in Minneapolis.

Ne Plus Ultra, which means "nothing but the finest," was a phrase Wilensky learned in the military, said his son, Howard, of St. Louis Park. "The store was really one of the first full service grocery stores in the Twin Cities," Howard Wilensky said. Wilensky sold it in the 1960s and operated another grocery store

in Burnsville for a couple of years. He then started a small neighborhood grocery store, Handee Food Center, in St. Louis Park. The store, which used to be the old Milkhouse grocery store on W. Lake St., was sold in 1977.

Wilensky was a member of the YMCA and Northwest Racquet Club.

Besides his son, he is survived by his wife, Shirley; a daughter, Ilana Clarren of St. Louis Park; and four sisters, Marion Ovitz, of Pompano Beach, Fla.; Rozella Karol of Chicago, Pauline Ziskin of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., and Bess Barenbaum of St. Louis Park. Services will be held at 2 p.m. today at Temple Israel, 2324 Emerson Av. S., Minneapolis. Shiva will be held today and Thursday at 2225 Pennsylvania Av. S., St. Louis Park. Arrangements are by Hodroff & Sons Funeral Chapel, Minneapolis.

Sid's obituary notice

Bess Wilensky Barenbaum b. 1920 d. 2002

Bess, the youngest, married Tony Barenbaum in 1945. Bess was the only one of the children to graduate high school in Minneapolis. I was the flower girl at their wedding, but no pictures exist. I was four years old. Bess and Tony had two children, Bruce, their son, who died tragically in a car accident his senior year in high school and Ilene, their daughter, who married Michael Cohen and lives in St. Paul.

Our family lived on Queen Avenue and the Barenbaums lived on Russell Avenue, just a couple of blocks apart. We spent a great deal of time together, celebrated every holiday together and felt as though we were siblings rather than cousins, as well as having two sets of parents.

Bess was the life of the party. Bess began by giving dance lessons as a young girl in Devils Lake and she never got over her love of dancing. Her other love was "Frankie," perhaps better known as Frank Sinatra. His music played in her house and she never missed an opportunity to see him. She was as much a bobbysoxer at 70 as she was as a teenager.

Bess also loved to gamble. Therefore Las Vegas was a favorite destination. One of her favorite pastimes was playing cards with the "girls" which my mother, Pauline also did. She also worked in Leighton Siegel's ENT office. (my husband). Shortly after he opened his solo medical practice in 1971, he needed an emergency part time receptionist. Bess was available and willing to give it a try. I think she stayed on for more than 25 years. The patients and staff loved her ready smile and caring disposition.

Bess's husband, Tony, was a great favorite of all of ours. He was tall, good looking and interested in all of his nieces and nephews. He knew everybody and everybody knew him. It was a great honor of mine to be asked to read the eulogy that Ilene had written at his funeral.

Bess died in 2002 of diseases related to her smoking. She had never been able to give up those cigarettes and left us too soon.



Bess as a baby



Bess in Devils Lake



Bess and Ida - Chicago



Out of Bess's scrapbook – Devils Lake



The Last Word—

No Hero

Glamour & Co.—

More of Bess's scrapbook



Our Home

The One-horse Chez

Beauty

And still more of Bess's scrapbook -

THURSDAY EVENING, DEC. 20

Personal

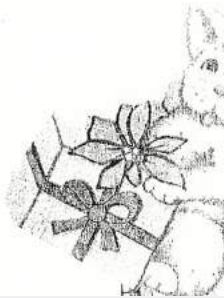
DEVILS LAKE

CELEBRATES BIRTHDAY

Miss Bessie Wilensky celebrated her fourteenth birthday last night when she entertained 14 friends at a six-thirty dinner. Games were played during the evening and prizes were awarded to Ruth Gilbertson, Muriel Nimmo, Harriet Gray and Lillian Bronstein.

* * *
Donald McNaughton returned home yesterday from the university.

* * *
For the Christmas holidays get a case of Grain Belt Beer. (c12|15 1|12)



Bess's 14th birthday announcement

* * * B. P. W. SPONSORS BRIDGE PARTY

Members of the Business and Professional Women's club sponsored a benefit bridge at the Great Northern clubrooms Tuesday evening. Twenty tables of bridge were in play during the evening.

A short program was given at the close of the evening. Miss Helen Copenhaver sang two numbers "Sweetheart" from Maytime, and "Serenade" by Shubert. She was accompanied at the piano by Miss Emily Hagen. Miss Bess Wilensky was presented in a tap dance and Miss Jane Hall played the piano accompaniment.

Bess was a great dancer



The members of the Wabisinka Camp Fire group gave a party for the Ta-Ta-Poochan group on Friday, October 11, at the new Memorial Building. Games were played with prizes being won by Bernice Raud, Bess Wilensky, Lillian Bronstein and Dorothy Stefanowicz. The party was chaperoned by Miss Jane Hall, advisor of the Wabisinka group.

On September 30, the Wabisinka group held election of officers. Those elected were president, Pyllis Claire Kelly, secretary, Mary Margaret Moore, treasurer, Doris Samuelstad, and scribe, Bess Wilensky.

Bess belonged to the Camp Fire Girls

Plan a 'Swingeroo'



—Tribune Staff Photo.

THE MISSES ESTHER KOGAN, Bess Wilensky and Sara Shapiro, left to right, are assisting with plans for the "Swingeroo" dance to be given Sunday evening by members of the Raananah club of Emanuel Cohen center at the Talmud Torah, Eighth and Fremont avenues north. Proceeds will go to aid European refugees.

Social life in Minneapolis



Bess in Devils Lake



Bess in Minneapolis



Bess's graduation picture



Bess as a young adult



Bess and Tony's wedding



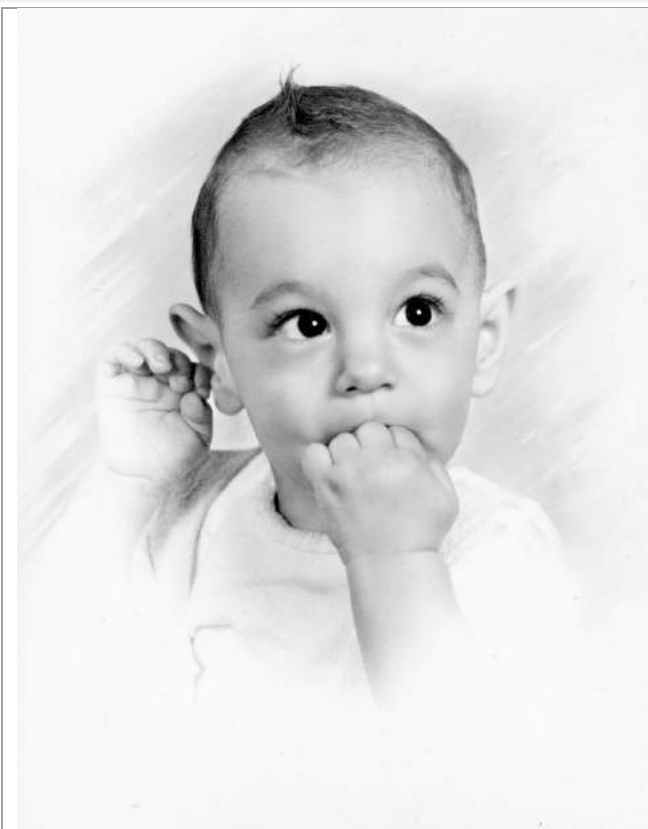
Bess and Tony Barenbaum



Bess and Tony's honeymoon



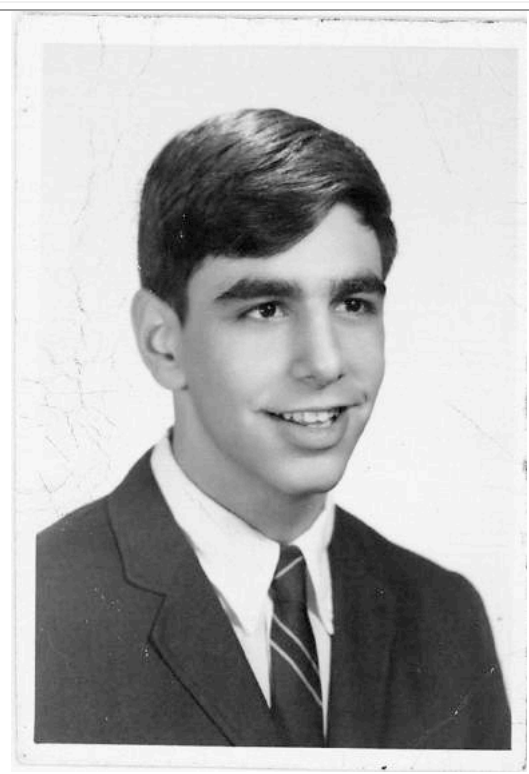
Bess Barenbaum with Bruce



Bruce Barenbaum as a baby



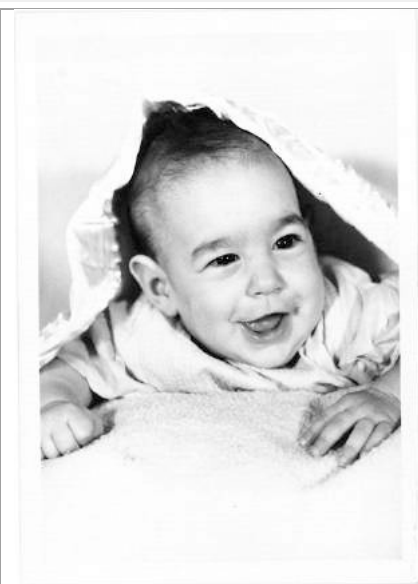
Bruce Barenbaum age 2



Bruce Barenbaum age 18



Ilene Barenbaum age 2



Ilene Barenbaum as a baby



Ilene Barenbaum high school graduation



Ilene's Bat Mitzvah 1964 Ilene, Tony, Bess, Bruce Barenbaum



Ilene and Mike Cohen Wedding



Family at Ilene and Mike's wedding - 1973



Bess and Tony Barenbaum –
Bradley's Bar Mitzvah 1989



Bradley Cohen's Bar Mitzvah 1989



Tony and Bess Barenbaum
Arnold and Rozella Karol



Irving and Marian Ovitz
Sid and Shirley Wilensky



Mike, Ali, Ilene and Bradley Cohn 2005



Mike, Ilene, Gina, Bradley '05



Bradley and Gina Cohen



Ilene and Mike Cohen 2005



The "Girls" – Bess Barenbaum, Rozella Karol, Marian Ovitz, Pauline Ziskin



The Girls Again – Rozella Karol, Bess Barenbaum, Marian Ovitz, Pauline Ziskin



Pauline Ziskin, Marian Ovitz, Sid Wilensky, Rozella Karol, Bess Barenbaum

THE OTHER RUBIN SIBLINGS

Dora Rubin Adelman b. 1876 d.

- 1) Dora Rubin m. Herman Adelman
 - a) Louis Adelman m Molly
 - b) John Adelman m. Sarah
 - c) Joe Adelman m. Adele
 - d) Rae Adelman m. Phil Beugan
 - e) Rose Adelman m. Joe Klass

Dora and Herman Adelman had five children: Louis, John, Joe, Rae and Rose. The cousins were very close with their Wilensky cousins in Devils Lake and visited often between Devils Lake and Winnipeg.

ADELMAN BRANCH

Dora was the second born living child of Bessie and Davis. She was born in August, 1876. She had a millinery shop in Devils Lake with her sister Ida. Dora married Herman Adelman and moved to Winnipeg. Her husband's parents were Abraham and Razel Adelman. Abraham Adelman along with Mendel Mills and Davis Rubin were the leaders of the Jewish community at that time. They led religious services and maintained the religious life in Devils Lake. The two families were joined when Dora Rubin married Herman Adelman. Then when Joseph Adelman (Herman's brother) married Molly Mills, all three families were connected.



- 1) Abraham Adelman m. Razel (Russia)
 - a) Ike (Isaac) m. unk
 - (1) Irene
 - b) Frances
 - c) Joe (Joseph) m. Molly Mills
 - (1) Hannah Adelman
 - d) Ruth Adelman
 - (1) Living Adelman
 - e) Etta Adelman
 - f) Sidney Adelman
 - g) Herman m. Doba Rubin
 - (1) See above
 - h) Rachel m. Lieberman m. divorced Davis Rubin
 - (1) Jake Lieberman
 - ii) Bessie Lieberman.



Joe and Idele Adelman



Cousins – Joe and Rose Klass



Joe and Rose Klass



Marian and Rose Klass



Rose, Aunt Dora Adelman and Rae



Rose Adelman Klass



Dora Adelman
with daughters



Johnny, Rose, Rae, Louie Adelman



Uncle Herman, Aunt Dora Adelman and Rose
and Joe Klass



Marian, Molly, Lou, Johnny, Pauline, Bess, Ray
Beugen, Rae, Joe Klass, Rose

Sam Rubin b. 1884 d.



Sam Rubin

Sam was the third living child of Davis and Bessie Rubin. Sam was born in October 1884 and had an interesting life. He never married. He was a self-educated man. He started his career by going to Winnipeg and opening a furniture store. A fire destroyed the store for which there was no insurance. He then went to Chicago where times were so bad that he slept in his car. He had an idea, however, that was to make him a fortune. He invented and held the patent on the innerspring mattress. At first he made them a few at a time in a garage. Eventually he sold the patent to one of the big mattress companies and became a millionaire. He did many good things with his money, helping some family members go into business, etc. but his life did not end well. Unfortunately, a drinking problem decreased his rationality and bad business investments all combined with the result that at the time of his death he was in poor health both physically and mentally and most of his wealth was gone. I remember that he bought our family a new refrigerator for our first house in North Minneapolis. Sam was buried in Chicago.

In his later years my grandfather Herman would travel by train to Florida where he would visit with his sisters, brothers, sister-in laws, brother-in-laws, all of whom congregated in Miami Beach. My cousins and I were reminiscing recently about our Zadie's trips to Florida. He would always have us write his letters home for him before he left on those winter trips. The letters would say things like "I had dinner with Becky and Harry last night. Having a good time. Weather is good." I remembered that he stayed on 10th and Meridian. Zadie Wilensky was never very talkative. How I wish I had asked more questions.

EXTENDED WILENSKY BRANCH

1) ABRAHAM WILENSKY AND ANNA WILENSKY

- a) Meyer
- b) Herman
- c) Isadore
- d) Joe
- e) Harry
- f) Marian
- g) Tillie

2) ABRAHAM AND FIRST WIFE

- a) Jessie
- b) Katie
- c) Rebecca

Abraham married Anna Wilensky. This was a second marriage for Abraham. He had three daughters from the first marriage: Jessie, Rebecca and Katie. Abraham and Anna had 14 children, but only seven lived. Only the last child, Tillie, was born in this country. One story is that Abraham was head mechanic in a mill and the family lived near the mill. When an elevator hit him on the head he became deaf. Mills are very noisy and he was fired because he couldn't hear what was being said. Art Gittleman (Marian's son) was told that Abraham and Anna had a pickle business on the lower East Side of New York and that Abraham was a red headed rabbi. Apparently, Anna's family had been in business previously. Anna and Abraham then opened a bakery. Life was hard and there were many children. Abraham and Anna lived in New York, but I am not sure at what point in their lives they emigrated. Abraham came from a small town named Slotopole and Anna came from Odessa. My grandfather Herman said that he was from Leningrad, but I believe it may have been a small town near Leningrad. Abraham died at a young age and Anna remarried several times. They are buried in New York City.

The children in order of birth were: Meyer, Herman, Isadore, Joe, Harry, Marian and Tillie. When Marian was 14 years old and Tillie nine years old, the family went to North Dakota. Herman felt that if the family were to move there, it would be a better life. It was too cold, and the family returned to New York.



Isadore Wilensky



Rose Wilensky



Carl Marx – son of Isadore and Rose



Meyer Wilensky



Joe Wilensky



Rebecca Wilensky 1948

Tillie was the child that no one wanted to talk about. She was institutionalized in New York, perhaps she was retarded or had emotional problems. The parents were quite old when she was born. According to her sister Marian, Anna did not get along well with her daughter Tillie. Marian took Tillie to live in her home. This happened several times. I was told that once Anna decided to solve Tillie's problems by finding someone to impregnate her. She felt that a child was what her daughter needed. Anna accomplished this and Tillie became pregnant. Nobody knows if Tillie ever gave birth. She apparently lived in an institution until she died.



Rose and Meyer Wyle, Patti Karol Sandler on lap, Harry and Becky Nudelman, and Jessie Wilensky Cohen



Aunt Becky Nudelman



Becky with son Sol



Uncle Izzie Wilensky



*Uncle Harry
Nudelman*

Uncle Harry Nudelman



*Uncle Harry & Aunt Becky
Looks like Fla.*

Uncle Harry and Aunt Becky
Nudelman



Izzie and Rose Wilensky



Three Wilensky Women –daughter Zoe, Aunt Becky, daughter Celia
Atlantic City 1930

Most of the brothers and sisters of Herman Wilensky remained in New York with the exception of Isadore (Izzie) Wilensky who with his wife Rose, moved to California and Joe Wilensky who lived in Minneapolis until he disappeared. Isadore and Rose were happy in California. They were an unusual couple – bright, well read, intellectuals with socialist leanings as was common at the time. They were always happy to have family come to visit. When President Kennedy was inaugurated, Rose baked and sent a huge Hallah bread. They had three children: Karl Marx, Marian (Sissy) and Abel. Many of the siblings saw each other in later years when they would travel to Florida in the winter. Some of the Wilenskys changed their name to Wyle.

Excerpt from a talk given by Mr. I. Wilensky from the pulpit of Temple Isaiah in Los Angeles at the Friday evening service of December 19, 1969, at which time Mr. Wilensky was honored because of his impending 80th birthday on December 25, 1969. The speech goes on to quote the third Psalm and a prayer for peace. I include these excerpts because it is example of how well read and how well spoken this lovely man was.

“Rabbi Lewis, Cantor Nadel, President Weger and friends: Tonight is a very important one in my life. God willing, in five days I will celebrate my 80th birthday. I am very proud of this birthday, because our Talmud says that the span of a life is seventy years and anything over that is a gift from God. I am very grateful for this gift of years of life, and I want to say that I have many blessings to be grateful for. First, I am very grateful for the great inheritance left by my beloved wife, may she rest in peace. I am blessed with concerned children. I am also blessed with many good friends, both in and out of temple--some of them of fifty years standing. I am blessed, and here I must mention my wife, Rose, for she was a great help in her ability to make and keep friends; friends of whom I can say “A friend in need is a friend indeed.”

I remember the psalmist who said, “My help commeth from God. He will not forsake us nor leave us in our grief.” I tried to the best of my ability to live up to the quotation of the

prophet Micah who said “Do justly, love mercy, walk humbly with thy God.” I do not want to imply that I lived one hundred percent according to this wonderful quotation, but I have tried to live by it to the best of my ability. I want to thank God for not forsaking me in my old age. My cup is filled with compassion, love, mercy, justice and understanding.

I would like to tell you about my youth when I help to abolish the “Sweat Shops” – when fathers only saw their children once a week on their day off. When they left for work the children were still asleep, and when they returned the children had already retired for the night. I could tell you about the erecting of the City of Hope -----.” (end of excerpt)

The following is a story told to me by Joe’s son, Abby: “On a cold January, 1943 morning in Minneapolis, I was awakened by my father, Joe, who was searching for something in my bedroom closet. I was not fully awake so had no clue as to what he was doing. I fell asleep and thought nothing more about it. I got out of bed at the usual time and went to work. That evening, he did not come home from work. My brother Max was in the army, and so it was just my mother and I. After a few days I reported my Dad missing and was told that this sort of thing happens every day, and he would probably return soon. He did not return, and we made adjustments to our way of life and went on with what we had to do.

In 1945, your Uncle Sid told my brother that he knew where my Dad was living. I don’t know how he learned about this, but, nevertheless, we (Max, a friend of mine, and I) took off for Chicago. We arrived in the early morning hours, found the house that my Dad was supposedly living in, and waited for daylight, resting in the car. The next morning we knocked on the door, and asked for him. He came and we told him that we would be taking him to Minneapolis. He didn’t hesitate, got his things together, and we left.

After a few days in Minneapolis, he decided to look for work, and left to do so. Once again, he did not return.

Two years later, we learned that he was back in Chicago. My mother insisted on going there to find him. I tried to talk her out of it, but it was no use. So I felt that I needed to go with her, which I did, and we found him at work. We got something to eat, and stopped at a shoemaker to drop off a pair of shoes. I do not recall why we did this. We were told that it would take awhile, so we went to a movie down the street to spend some time until the shoes would be ready. During the movie, he said he had to go to the restroom. Of course, he did not return. My mother and I went to the shoemaker to pick up the shoes, and learned that he had been there, and paid for the repair.

We then returned to Minneapolis.

Years later, about 1960, I left a restaurant where I had eaten lunch, and started walking back to work. I noticed a man walking across the street. He had a peculiar walk, similar to my Dad’s. I ran up to him, and I was right - it was him. We talked, and he gave me an address where he was staying. I told him I would pick him up after work and bring him home with me. Needless to say, I could not find the address, as it was bogus. And I did not see him again, until a few years later, your Uncle Sid stopped at a pharmacy near where his store was on Nicollet Avenue to pick up a prescription. It was handed to him, and he happened to look at the name - it was for Joseph Wilensky! He had been given the wrong package. Sid did notice the address, called me and we both went there. It was

a nursing home. We found him there. I don't recall why he was there. I went back the next day, and he, again, was gone.

One day, sometime later, I received a call from a woman who said Joe was sick in the hospital and that he had told her that when he died he would like a Jewish funeral. Sid and I went to visit him in the hospital, but I don't think he recognized us. When he did die, I arranged for a proper funeral for him. He is buried in the cemetery on South Penn Avenue, but not near my mother."

Rubin Family Tree

DAVIS RUBIN b. 1854 d. 1936 M. BESSIE WALSOWSKY b. 1855 d. 1919

They had four children. **Max, Sam, Ida** and **Dora**

I. MAX

- A. Son (Russia)
- B. Daughter (Russia)

II. SAM

III. IDA b. 1886 d. 1949 m. Herman Wilensky b. 1882 d. 1979

- A. Marian b. 1910 d. 2003 m. Irving Ovitz b. 1906 d. 1994
- B. Sidney b. 1915 d. 1994 m. Shirley Claren
 - (1) Ilana Claren (Shirley's daughter previous marriage)
 - (2) Howard Wilensky b. 1954
- C. Rozella b. 1912 d. 2005 married Arnold Karol b. 1908 d. 1993
 - (1) Patti b. 1946 m. Robert Sandler b. 1943
 - a. Kimberly b. 1973 m. 2003 Steven Earnhart b. 9/71
 - 1. Alexa b. 2004
 - 2. Davis b. 2007
 - b. Deanna b. 1974
 - (2) Alan b. 1946 m. Bonnie Chez b. 1948
 - a. Amy b. 1974
 - b. Adam b. 1976
 - (3) Ellen b. 1953 divorced. Barry Steinman b. 1952
 - a. Maury b. 1984
 - b. Shelby b. 1986
 - c. Dana b. 1989
- D. Pauline b. 1913 d. 2006 m. David Ziskin b. 1908 d. 1988
 - (1) Dianne b. 1941 m. Leighton Siegel b.1937
 - a. Pamela b. 1968 m.1996 Jon Passman b. 1967
 - 1. Abraham Siegel Passman b. 1999
 - 2. Jordan Siegel Passman b. 2000
 - 3. Eve Siegel Passman b. 2004
 - b. Lesli Robyn b. 1968 m 2000 Michael Marasco b.1965
 - 1. Sophia Siegel Marasco b 1902
 - 2.Andrew Siegel Marasco b. 2004
 - c. Jeffrey b. 1972 m. 2003 Andrea Onell 1976
 - (2) Alan b. 1946 m. Bonnie Chez b. 1948
 - a. Amy b. 1974
 - b. Adam b. 1976
 - (3) Ellen b. 1953 divorced. Barry Steinman b. 1952
 - a. Maury b. 1984
 - b. Shelby b. 1986
 - c. Dana b. 1989
- E. Bess b. 1920 d. 2002 m. Tony Barenbaum b. 1914 d. 1996
 - (1) Bruce Barenbaum b. 1947 d. 1964
 - (2) Ilene 1951 m. Michael Cohen
 - a. Bradley b1975 m. 2005 Gina Elfing (divorced)
 - i. Noah b. 2008
 - ii. Gabriel James b. 2010
 - b. Allison b. 1979 m. 2009 Adam Silverman
 - 1. Maxton b. 2011

IV. DORA m. Herman Adelman

A. Louis m. Molly (California)

- (1) Sheila m. Stanley Greenberg
 - a. Anne-Marie m. Wiley Sloan (div) m. Michael Shacklett
 - (1) Daniel
 - (2) Tyler
 - b. Francine m Tony Bastanchury (dec) m. Jeff Greenman (FL)
 - (1) Kyle
 - (2) Nicole m. Danny Rojas
 - c. Howard James m. Marilyn (div) m. Jenny Brown
- (2) Robert m. Chris
 - a. Dr. Angela (Angie)
 - b. Heidi m. Eric Rothman
 - (1) Will
 - c. Jason
- (3) Dr. David m. Eleanor (deceased)
 - a. William m. Ophra Prag
 - (1) Elinore
 - (2) Ariel
- (4) Howard m. Gliddel
 - a. Lisa m. Guy Zioni
 - (1) Andreana Lee (Andy)
 - (2) Anthony
 - b. Charrissa m. David Rubey (MN)
 - (1) Alexander
 - (2) Christina
 - c. Charles (Chuck)
 - (1) Chase

B. John m. Sarah (Winnepeg)

- (1) David m. Maria
 - a. Jonathan
 - b. Daniel
- (2) Barbara m. Harley Donen
 - a. Joel Raymond b. 1977 m. Risa Scher
 - b. Rachel Maxine b. 1979

C. Joe m. Idele d. 2005

- (1) Arvin Adelman m. Kathy (divorced) m. Sauce
 - a. Jody m. David King
 - 1. Samuel b. 6/98
 - 2. Chelsea b. 1/00
 - b. Jason m. Michelle
 - 1. Collin
 - 2. Corey b. 2003
- (2) Floyd m Lonnie (divorced) m. Andrea Segal
 - a. Harlen (Lonnie) m. Amanda White (2003)
 - b. Paul (deceased)

- c. Barbara
 - (3) Mark m. Elaine
 - a. Jonathan
 - b. Julie
 - c. David
 - (4) Debbie m. Waldbaum (divorced)
 - a. Adam
- D. Rae m. Phil Beugan (Portland)
 - (1) David
 - (2) Dory Sartoris
 - a. Rachel
- E. Rose m. Joe Klass (Portland)
 - (1) Alvin m. Aileen (divorced)
 - a. two children
 - (2) Rhoda m. Stuart Lomsky (deceased)
 - b. two children

Wilensky Family Tree

ABRAHAM WILENSKY was married twice.

The first marriage had three daughters. Jessie, Katie, Rebecca.

The second marriage had seven children. Meyer, Harry, Herman, Isadore, Marian, Joe and Tillie. They had seven additional children who died.

ABRAHAM WILENSKY AND ? His first marriage.

- I. Jessie (Hasha) m. Sam Cohen
 - A. Charles m. Ricky (Florida)
 - B. May m. I.A. Star (Florida)
 1. Albert
 2. Sheldon
 - C. Sophie m. Bill Horowitz (Florida)
 1. Stanley
 2. Marilyn
 - D. Harry m. Ella (Florida) m. Min
 1. Sheldon
 - E. Gussie m. Frank Israel (Florida)
 1. Joel

- II. Katie m. Jake Shapiro (second marriage)
 - A. Sam m. Nettie
 1. Rasha
 2. Joan
 - B. Celia m. Seymour Ratner
 1. Jack

- III. Rebecca m. Hyman Iglewitz m. Harry Nudelman
 - A. Zoe m. Harry
 - B. Celia m. Hank
 - C. Mel Lowe m.

ABRAHAM AND ANNA WILENSKY His second marriage.

- I. Meyer Wyle m. Rose
 - A. Dr. Irving Wyle m.
 - B. Paula m. Eli Goldman
- II. Harry Wyle m. Mary
 - A. Benjamin Wyle m.
 - B. Lucy m. Joseph Mindel
 - (1) Judith
 - C. Pearl (Pinky) m. Arnold Mandell
 - (1) Jane Moross

- a. two children
 - (2) Robert
- III. Herman Wilensky 1882 – 1972 m. Ida Rubin 1886 - 1949
 - A. Marian b. 1910 d. 2003 m. Irving Ovitz b. 1906 d. 1994
 - B. Sidney b. 1915 d. 1994 m. Shirley Claren
 - (1) Ilana Claren (Shirley's daughter previous marriage)
 - (2) Howard Wilensky b. 1954
 - C. Rozella b. 1912 d. 2004 m. Arnold Karol b. 1908 d. 1993
 - (1) Patti 1953 m. Robert Sandler b. 1943
 - a. Kimberly b. 1973 m. 2003 Steve Earnhardt b. 1971
 - 1. Alexa b. 2004
 - 2. Davis b. 2007
 - b. Deanna b. 1974
 - D. Pauline b. 1913 d. 2006 m. David Ziskin b. 1908 d. 1988
 - (1) Dianne b. 1941 m. Leighton Siegel b. 1937
 - a. Pamela b. 1968 m. 1996 Jon Passman b. 1967
 - 1. Abraham Siegel Passman b. 1999
 - 2. Jordan Siegel Passman b. 2000
 - 3. Eve Siegel Passman b. 2004
 - b. Lesli b. 1968 m. 2000 8/00 Michael Marasco b. 1964
 - 1. Sophia Siegel Marasco b. 2002
 - 2. Andrew Siegel Marasco b. 2004
 - c. Jeffrey b. 1972 m. 2003 Andrea Onell b. 1976
 - (2) Alan b. 1946 m. Bonnie Chez b. 1948
 - a. Amy b. 1974
 - b. Adam b. 1975
 - (3) Ellen b. 1953 divorced Barry Steinman b. 1952
 - a. Maury b. 1984
 - b. Shelby b. 1986
 - c. Dana b. 1989
 - E. Bess b. 1921 d. 2002 m. Tony Barenbaum b. 1914 d. 1996
 - (1) Bruce Barenbaum b. b. 1947 d. 1964
 - (2) Ilene b. 1951 m. Michael Cohen
 - a. Bradley b. b. 1975 m. 2005 Gina Elfing (divorced)
 - i. Noah b. 2008
 - ii. Gabriel James b. 2010
 - b. Allison b. 1979 m. 2009 Adam Silverman
 - i. Maxton b. 2011
- IV. Isadore Wilensky m. Rose
 - A. Carl Marx Wilensky
 - B. Marian (Sissy)
 - C. Abel Wilensky
- V. Marian m. William Gittelman
 - A. Arthur m. Doris Kaplan m. Marcia Pearl
 - (1) Wayne m. Wanda Anderson
 - a. Samuel

- b. Benjamin b. 2000
 - (2) Susan m. Dan Egan
 - a. Daniel
 - B. Ruth m. Sam Starrett
 - (1) Kenneth m. Sheri
 - a. Jennifer
 - b. Sarah
 - (2) Andrew
 - (3) Karen m. William Belfer
 - a. Adam
 - b. Ross
 - (4) Joan m. Bruce Futterman
 - a. Robyn
 - b. David
- VI. Joseph b. 1892 d. 1978 married Helen Fishman b. 1892 d. 1980
 - A. Max b. 1916 Grand Forks, N.D. m. Natalie Zouber
 - (1) Rosalyn b. 1949
 - (2) Gary b. 1944
 - B. Abbey b. 1924 m. Barbara Brown b. 1929 d. 2004
 - (1) Stephen b. 1952 m Susan Wandersee b. 1949
 - a. Kyle b. 1978
 - b. Benjamin b. 1991 d. 2002
 - (2) Lori b. 1958 m. Lee Erickson b. 1958
 - a. Luke b. 1987
 - b. Madeline b. 1991
- VII. Tillie Wilensky