



קול הניצולים

VOICE OF THE SURVIVORS
The Kol Israel Foundation

and

Second Generation Kol Israel
Fall Newsletter - August 2006

Editorial Board:

Dr. Zev Harel, Ms. Cindy Feuer, Mr. Jack Hennenberg, and Ms. Anne Lukas

Spring and Summer 2006 Activities:

Yom Hashoa V'Hagvurah Commemoration

B'nai Yeshurun Congregation

April 24, 2006 - 7:00 p.m.

Yom Hazikaron and Yom Haatzmaut

Park Synagogue - May 2, 2006

Kol Israel Sisterhood Spring Luncheon

South Euclid Community Center - May 23, 2006

Fall 2006 Activities:

Kol Israel Foundation, SGKI, & Sisterhood

61th Anniversary Celebration

B'nai Yeshurun - August 27, 2006

Kol Israel Sisterhood

Paid up Membership Luncheon

South Euclid Community Center - August 14, 2006

Annual Memorial Service

Zion Memorial Park

September 17, 2006 - 2:00 p.m.

For the dead and the living - We must remember

President's Message - Leo Silberman

Sadly, once again, our brothers and sisters in Israel are under attack. To help in this time of emergency, Kol Israel has donated \$10,000 to the JCF Israel Crisis Fund. Kol Israel Sisterhood and Second Generation Kol Israel have also contributed. We all pray for a quick and successful end to this crisis.

I would like to recognize Sam Hoenig and Ann Lukas for their extraordinary efforts on behalf of the Cleveland Holocaust Survivors Life Needs Initiative. Their hard work has resulted in much needed funds for needy Holocaust Survivors and increased community awareness of their tragic situations.

We have moved. Kol Israel meetings and socials will now be held at Workman's Circle 1980 South Green Road. The staff at Workman' Circle has also agreed to take messages for us. To leave a message for Kol Israel, call 216 381-4515.

And finally, I hope to see you all on Sunday, August 27, 2006, as we celebrate our 61st Anniversary of our liberation with a Dinner Dance at B'nai Yeshurun Congregation.

Refuah Shlema! Best wishes for a speedy recovery are extended to:

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| <i>Sidi Albert</i> | <i>Nathan Burzinski</i> | <i>Helen Cyncynatus</i> | <i>Sol Feuer</i> |
| <i>Ileen Green</i> | <i>Hilda Hennenberg</i> | <i>Jacob Hennenberg</i> | <i>Gitta Hoffman</i> |
| <i>Sylvia Malcmacher</i> | <i>Rafal Majorczik</i> | <i>Helen Pahmer</i> | <i>Harry Schuster</i> |
| <i>Paula Silberman</i> | <i>Eva Wieder</i> | <i>Ida Zelvin</i> | |

Condolences are extended to:

Alice and Simon Fixler for the loss of their brother in law

Arnold Friedman for the loss of his wife

Sidi Wolf for the loss of her brother

Deepest Sympathies are extended to families of

Harry Aizen

Mayer Ferber

Mark Fiala

Betty Friedman

Henry Miller

Mania Ulman

Sarah Weil

Ida Zelwin

Congratulations and best wishes are extended to:

Lilly and Henry Binstock on their 60th Anniversary

Rose and Philip Epstein on their 60th Anniversary

Mike Frum on the batmitzva of his granddaughter

Louise and Harry Gips on the birth of their great grandson

Lynn and Avi Goldman on the birth of their grandson

Anna Krutowsky on the marriage of her granddaughter

Nina and Al Leska on the marriage of their grandson

Sara and Larry Warn on the birth of their great grandson

Miriam and Philip Wexberg on the barmitzva of their grandson

Kol Israel Life Membership

Our life membership has currently over 200 members. We would love to see you join this special honor list

| | | | |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <i>Harry Abraham</i> | <i>Molly & Abbie Akst</i> | <i>Kornelia Albert</i> | <i>Liza Alpert</i> |
| <i>Florence & Issac Alpert</i> | <i>Jack Baigelman</i> | <i>Tova & Sam Baron</i> | <i>Estelle & Sam Beder</i> |
| <i>Sally Bergrin</i> | <i>Betty Berry</i> | <i>Meyer Blecher*</i> | <i>Sam Burke</i> |
| <i>Nathan Burzinski</i> | <i>Elias Cala</i> | <i>Mary & Harold Chaitoff</i> | <i>Shirley & Carl Cohen</i> |
| <i>Jacob Cemel</i> | <i>Max Curtis</i> | <i>Ann Cyncynatus</i> | <i>Eva and Eugene Davidovits</i> |
| <i>Clara & Abe Donner</i> | <i>Alan Edelman</i> | <i>Rose & Philip Epstein</i> | <i>Rachel Faigenbaum</i> |
| <i>Murray Farkas</i> | <i>Sol Feuer</i> | <i>Alice & Simon Fixler</i> | <i>Esther & Herman* Frank</i> |
| <i>Genia Frankel</i> | <i>Judith & Herbert Frankel</i> | <i>Nina Frankel</i> | <i>Rina & Sam Frankel</i> |
| <i>Elaine & Roman Frayman</i> | <i>Arnold Friedman</i> | <i>Neff Fremont</i> | <i>Anne* & Mike Frum</i> |
| <i>Shery & Howard Frum</i> | <i>Shirley Garn</i> | <i>Rose & Arthur Gelbart</i> | <i>Jack Gildar</i> |
| <i>Louise and Harry Gips</i> | <i>Erika Gold</i> | <i>Avi Goldman</i> | <i>Pearl Goldstein</i> |
| <i>Bernice & Saul Gottlieb</i> | <i>Ileen & Philip Green</i> | <i>Sarah & Joe Greenberg</i> | <i>Samuel Greenstein*</i> |
| <i>Helen Gutowitz</i> | <i>Nitza & Nehemia Hampel</i> | <i>Bernice & Zev Harel</i> | <i>Miriam & Sam Hauptman</i> |
| <i>Hilda & Jacob Hennenberg</i> | <i>Judith & Ted Hersh</i> | <i>Denise & Jacob Herskovitz</i> | <i>Clara & Alex Hertz</i> |
| <i>Gitta & Martin Hoffman</i> | <i>Mania Horn</i> | <i>Rose Ickowicz</i> | <i>Vera & Paul* Isakowicz</i> |
| <i>Elizabeth & Armin Jacob</i> | <i>Leah & William Kagan</i> | <i>Eva & Boaz Kahana</i> | <i>Helen & Irving Kalski</i> |
| <i>Miriam & Isak Kampinski</i> | <i>Rose Kaplovitz</i> | <i>Sara Kay</i> | <i>Ella Kieselstein</i> |
| <i>Eda Kochman</i> | <i>Fanie* & Isak Koen*</i> | <i>Marcia Krause</i> | <i>Paula & Karl Lasman</i> |
| <i>Martin Lax</i> | <i>Suzanne & Bernard* Krakow</i> | <i>Lee Lerer</i> | <i>Chaya & Anchel Lebovits</i> |
| <i>Anna Lerer</i> | <i>Aranka & Moshe* Loeb</i> | <i>Miriam & Rafal Majorczik</i> | <i>Lola & Morry* Malcmacher</i> |
| <i>Sylvia & Izidor* Malcmacher</i> | <i>Lola Mandelbaum</i> | <i>Rose Marmor</i> | <i>Ruth Marmorstein*</i> |
| <i>Sara Marocco</i> | <i>Helen & Joseph Matlow</i> | <i>Sam Meizner</i> | <i>Alla & Boris Mikhli</i> |
| <i>Celia & Abraham Milchiker</i> | <i>Miriam & Henry Miller</i> | <i>Ruth Miller</i> | <i>Josephine & Louis Muller</i> |
| <i>Helene Najfach</i> | <i>Frances & Stanley* Neuman</i> | <i>Dina Offman</i> | <i>Helen & Jack Pahmer</i> |
| <i>Goldie & Joseph* Perl</i> | <i>Sheila & Herschel Pickholtz</i> | <i>Helene & Steven Pincus</i> | <i>Joseph Pollack</i> |
| <i>Helen Potash</i> | <i>Leatrice & Irving Rabinsky</i> | <i>Eva Reis</i> | <i>Judith & Marshal Rosenberg</i> |
| <i>Ruth & Henry Rosenfeld</i> | <i>Rose Rosner</i> | <i>Ghitla Rzepka</i> | <i>Hanna Saar</i> |
| <i>David Schneider*</i> | <i>Manny Schneider</i> | <i>Margaret & Harry Schuster</i> | <i>Darlene Schwartz</i> |
| <i>Ruth Schwartz</i> | <i>Paula & Leo Silberman</i> | <i>Mayer Silberstein</i> | <i>Zelda & Lary Simon</i> |
| <i>Edith & Sid Simon</i> | <i>Florence Singer</i> | <i>Sylvia & Perec* Slivka</i> | <i>Evelyn & Steve Slomovitz</i> |
| <i>Peter Smilovitz</i> | <i>Bertha & Julian Solonitz</i> | <i>Henrik Sperling</i> | <i>Dora Stankowicz</i> |
| <i>Sophie Steinbuch</i> | <i>J. Swede</i> | <i>Gisele & Hans* Walter</i> | <i>Sara & Larry Warn</i> |
| <i>Bertha Weider</i> | <i>Norman Weinstein</i> | <i>Margaret & Sol Weintraub</i> | <i>Jack Weiss</i> |
| <i>Josephine & George Weisz</i> | <i>Marcia Wexberg</i> | <i>Miriam & Philip Wexberg</i> | <i>Eva & Jack* Wieder</i> |
| <i>Idele & Abraham Wolf</i> | <i>Hildegard Wolk*</i> | <i>Pearl & Bernard* Yaeger</i> | <i>Abraham Yagour</i> |
| <i>Rita York*</i> | <i>Ruth & Al Zelczer</i> | <i>Chaya Zryl*</i> | |

Yom Hazikaron and Yom Haatzmaut 2006

Park Synagogue, May 2, 2006

The Annual Yom Hazikaron and Yom Haatzmaut event took place this year at Park Synagogue. This event honored the memory of lost Israeli brave soldiers and terror victims. It was also a joyous celebration of the Israeli Independence Day. Park Synagogue has been a very good location for holding this special event.

Yom Hashoa V'Hagvurah 2006

B'nai Yeshurun Congregation – April 24, 2006

The annual Yom Hashoa 2006 took place on April 24, 2006 at Congregation B'nai Yeshurun. Susan Hennenberg and Mark Frank served as Co-Chairs for this very important event in our history. It marked the 61st anniversary of our liberation from the evils of Nazi Germany. The major theme for this year's commemoration was "Second Generation Carries the tradition of honoring the memories and legacies of the Holocaust." As every year, and maybe more so this year, this event was very meaningful for the survivors and the community as members of the Second Generation Kol Israel, Sol Factor, Mark Frank, Avi Goldman, Susan Hennenberg and Rich Rakos shared their perspectives on how to carry on the Yom Hashoa V'Hagvurah tradition.

Annual Memorial Service

Zion Memorial Park

September 17th 2006, 2:00 p.m.

The annual Memorial Service took place at Zion Memorial Park on Sunday September 17th, 2005. Simon Fixler, Mark Frank and Avi Goldman are hard at work to make this annual event a meaningful one. As every year Jacob Hennenberg is working on the memorial Service Book. We are looking forward to the participation of Cantor Mizrahi in this very important event in the lives of Holocaust survivors, members of the Second Generation and the general community.

Message from the Kol Israel Sisterhood

Sylvia Malcmacher, Vice President

The Kol Israel Sisterhood will hold a Paid up Luncheon on August 14, 2006, at noon at South Euclid Community Center. For beautiful cards for all occasions, call Ileen Green (216) 382 - 9742
For purchase of trees in Israel, call Sylvia Malcmacher (216) 381 - 1726

From the Jewish Family Service Association

Ellie Shoag and Gilda Katz

The Jewish Family Service Association Holocaust Survivor Program is here to help you. We can discuss with you what your needs are and how we can help you best achieve your goals. We can assist you in getting a Help Button or Meals on Wheels or help you do your grocery shopping.

We would like to invite you to join us at Europa Café at the Beachwood Library. We meet most Wednesday afternoons. It is a social afternoon with speakers, entertainment, movies and, of course, coffee and kuchen. We can provide transportation, if you need it.

For more information about the Europa Café program or any other Holocaust survivor programs, please contact Ellie Shoag or Gilda Katz at 216-378-3439.

Kol Israel Foundation, Kol Israel Sisterhood and SG Kol Israel

61st Anniversary Celebration

Join us on August 27, 2006 5:30 p.m.

B'nai Yeshurun Congregation

DAYS AND PLACES TO REMEMBER

Many years ago I wrote an article entitled "In Defense of a City." The article tried to explain that before World War II the town of Oswiecim was a viable Jewish community in commerce, industry and the Jewish way of life. Before the war, I was greatly influenced by my cousin Elimelech Goldberg. His mother Ita was my mother's sister. He was only one year older than me, but a naturally studious and intelligent boy. He taught himself English while still in public school.

In 1939, after the Nazi's overran Poland and the Jews were not allowed to go to school, my cousin Elimelech took a group of youngsters, including me, and taught us what we should have been learning in school. This in itself was a kind resistance against the Nazi will, to keep us in the dark. He instilled in me the historical values that are with me today. The events of the Holocaust pushed us in different geographical directions. I was liberated on May 9, 1945 in Walbenburg and Elimelech was liberated on April 27, 1945 in Kaufering.

After liberation I discovered that, from my whole family that was stuck in Europe during that ordeal, only my sister Karola survived in camp Oboraltstadt in the Sudetenland. I also realized that not even a document or any Jewish related item survived in the once Jewish community of Oswiecim, now known as Auschwitz, the killing field of Europe. So I asked some friends before the war that lived in Oswiecim (non Jewish) to look out for me for any item or photograph from before the war. I felt I wanted to rescue these articles before they got lost after the war, in particular, the fact that there were no Jews in Oswiecim. I am thankful for that idea because for that idea and my cousin's Elimelech's teachings, I accumulated a large collection of such items.

A number of years ago, one of my Polish friends sent me a photograph depicting the cutting of the beard of Israel Leib Bochner of "Sucha" that took place in the so called "Chrzanower Stibl" that during the war was turned into a locksmith shop in order to prevent destruction by the Nazis. The photo was taken in secret by the Polish underground. I also had an uncle Israel Leib Bochner, my mother's brother, who left Oswiecim shortly before the war. Some years later, I got a small booklet in Hebrew that my Polish friend found in Oswiecim. It came on "Tishe Beav" and it was a prayer book of mourning the destruction of the temples in Jerusalem. "Tishe Beav" means nine days in the Hebrew month of AV (August).

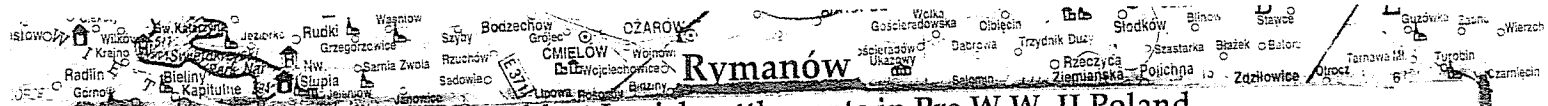
The destruction of Jerusalem by the Babylonians (587 B.C.E. Ninth day of AV.) Decimated its population and it remained desolate for five decades. Its ruins represented the decline of Judah. Nevertheless, the Jewish people remained firm in their faith in Jerusalem, which was identified with their common history and their hope for national redemption. Psalm 137:5-6 uttered in Babylonian exile. "If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning."

In 536 B.C.E., after the fall of Babylon, Cyrus King of Persia, who became overlord of Judah, issued his famous declaration, which allowed those desiring to return to Zion to do so and rebuild the temple. It was Ezra the Scribe who was responsible for the restoration of authority of the Mosaic law and for making Jerusalem the undisputed religious center of Judaism.

As a fortress Jerusalem was all the stronger by its topographical position. It was protected on the west, south and east by the valleys of Ben Hinon and Kidron, while on the north it had three strong reinforced walls. The siege of Titus in the autumn of the year 70 B.C.E. finally provoked the outbreak of a revolt, which became a full-scale war. The temple and the lower city were defeated by John of Biscala, the upper city Bei Simeon D. Giora. The attackers were led by Titus at the beginning of AV (August) the wall of the Antonia, was finally stormed and after a few days the temple was set aflame (9th of AV). The city was destroyed,

3000 years of its existence as turbulent and glorious as it was in the past, today it is united and Jewish Am Israel Chai, Netzach Israel Loh Yeshaker.

"Jerusalem, City of David – 3000 Years"



Rymanów One of the oldest Jewish settlements in Pre W.W. II Poland

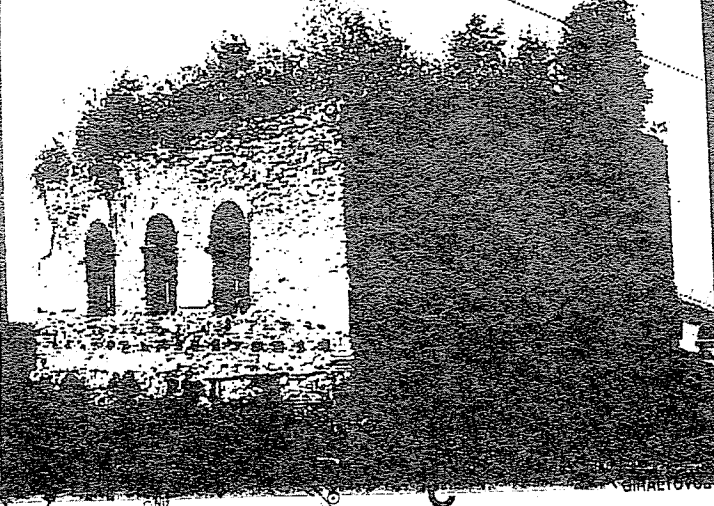
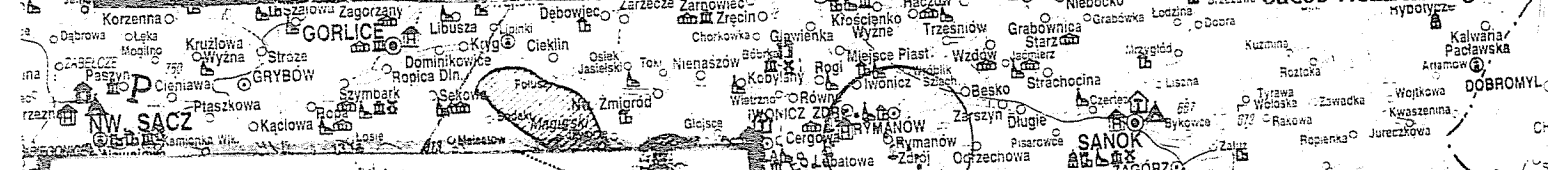
The first mention of a settlement in Rymanów is 1372 – 1378; located on the former trade route to Hungary. The local Jewish community belonged to the Kahal of Lesko. Since the 16th century, the town had a significant Jewish population. The local 17th century *Bejt-ha-kneset* synagogue is one of the exceptional examples of unusual fortified Jewish houses of prayer, used both for religious and military purposes. There is also a small military cemetery for Jewish soldiers who perished in the fights for the town in 1914 and 1915.

In the 19th century, after the partitions of Poland, the town was annexed by Austria and was made part of the Austrian ruled Galicia. Initially, a part of the Land of Sanok of the Ruthenian Voivodship, in 1772 it became a part of the Circle of Lesko and in 1864, back to the starostship of Sanok. The town's economy gradually returned as it became a local centre of foodstuffs trade for the local peasants. In 1872, the town became the property of Stanisław Potocki and his wife, Anna Działyńska, who started to develop a local spa. Much like the nearby town of Iwonicz Zdrój, Rymanów quickly developed into a popular resort for the inhabitants of Lwów. With the beginning of the oil industry in nearby Borysław, a new railway was built only half a mile from the city. This further boosted the local development. In 1898, the town had a population of 3704, including 1,889 Christians and 1,751 Jews.

After Poland regained her independence in 1918, the town was restored to Poland. However, 20 years afterwards, the town was again damaged, this time during the German terror bombings during the Polish Defensive War. After the Polish defeat, a prisoner of war camp was set up in the town's vicinity. Up to 10,000 Soviet prisoners were killed there by the Germans. The camp also served as a transit camp for the local Jewish population, mostly murdered in the German concentration camps.

The synagogue at Bieleckiego Street was built at the end of the 18th century. Although made of stone and brick, it has steadily become dilapidated since the end of World War II. It is located in the town's center, off the market place, on the slope of a hill. Only the walls of the main room with its square ground plan of 13.5 x 15 meters, the small round tower on the northwest corner and a part of the hall on the west side have been preserved. Inside, in the center of the main room, four beautifully ornamented brick columns with Corinthian capitals, spanned by a flattened cupola with fragments of the vault.

A famous scientist, Izydor Izaak Rabi, was born in Rymanów and received the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1944.



Jacob Hennenberg

Jeden z zachowanych fragmentów polichromii w rymanowskiej synagodze przedstawia modlitwę pod Ścianą Płaczu.

SECOND GENERATION KOL ISRAEL

P.O. BOX 24376 CLEVELAND, OHIO 44124

Summer, 2006

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Anne Lukas

An Early Happy New Year!

As I write this at the end of July, Israel is at war with the extremists in Lebanon. Our prayers are with Israel, especially her soldiers. Please know that SGKI has contributed to the Israel emergency fund.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION & AWARENESS

Susan Saltzman, Chairperson

We are considering community awareness programs and hope you will join us. We realize that everyone has a busy life. If you cannot find the time to be active on our board, please share your ideas with us. We hope to develop programs that appeal to second and third generation, so please pass the word on to your children and others who may be interested. Please call (216) 382-0789.

Our sympathy and condolences go to Board Member Lee Scott on the recent passing of her dear husband Jimmy.

HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS' LIFE NEEDS INITIATIVE

Sam Hoenig, Chairperson

Our recent mailing to support needy survivors has resulted in our receiving over \$10,000. We will be continuing with our fundraising over the summer and fall months. If you have not already, we urge you to support this effort by sending a contribution to this worthy fund.

Funding will help survivors with proven financial need. We will continue working closely with JFSA staff and other groups that assist survivors. Be assured that:

- 1) Absolutely no overhead or salaries will be supported by our funds.
- 2) Survivors will prove their need using Claims Conference guidelines through JFSA or other agencies.
- 3) Without knowing the identity of those in need, the presidents of Kol Israel, Sisterhood and SGKI will decide which situations will be funded.
- 4) Such confidentiality is required by the law that governs social service providers.

JEWISH - CHRISTIAN HOLOCAUST JOURNEY

JUNE 14-26, 2006

Anne Lukas, Tour Coordinator

I recently had the privilege of leading a group of 24 Christians and Jews to Poland, Italy and Israel for an unforgettable tour. Mr. Shalmi Barmore, former Holocaust Education Director of Yad Vashem, was our tour director. Our group visited Warsaw, Lodz, Chmielnik, Kielce, Krakow and Oswiecim/Auschwitz in Poland, Rome and Assisi in Italy and Jerusalem.

At Auschwitz, we saw overwhelming evidence of man's inhumanity to man. The area where thousands were selected for life and death, the sardine-like freezing

shelves, where victims slept up to 8 in a row, the photos of the abandoned, starving and bewildered children, the huge number of suitcases, eyeglasses, hair (for stuffing mattresses!) and even baby shoes. These thousands of items were collected from only three days of mass killing of our people at Auschwitz! The Nazis were unable to destroy this evidence before the camp was liberated.

Afterwards, we visited the Auschwitz Jewish Center, which Jacob Hennenberg was so instrumental in establishing. I was proud that my son Nathaniel and his friend Matthew Stahm, former classmates at Schechter Day School, carefully brought out the torah scroll, dedicated by our synagogue B'nai Jeshurun Congregation a few years ago by Rabbi Stephen Weiss and several congregants, including Board Member Avi Goldman.

I keep returning to images of the children, who were torn from their parents. And parents, who had to make monstrous "choices" such as whether to continue to live OR keep their children alive!

My hero is Janusz Korczak, the famous Jewish educator who stayed with his orphaned children in Warsaw until they forced them to the gas chambers. With his fame, he could easily have abandoned them, but he refused to leave them, comforting them with his presence to the end.

Therefore, it was with a small degree of relief that we met with Pauline Plaksej, 82, in Krakow. Pauline was a Christian teenager in a small town during the War. She related a story about an abandoned 4 year old Jewish child, who was begging for food. The Nazis had already occupied the town and threatened

the townspeople with death if they helped Jews. A woman who Pauline knew in the town took pity on the child and gave him some food. A Nazi saw her and shot both her and the child instantly. Everyone was terrified. Despite this, Pauline's family gave shelter to several Jews until they could escape to the nearby forest. She was not seeking fame and attention, but told us that it was "the right thing to do". Her brave family was honored by Yad Vashem.

I know that our families know first-hand how anti-Semitic many Poles were. I also realize that there were many Christians who turned Jews in to the SS and many others who rejoiced at our murders. For me, however, it was inspiring that some people risked their lives, and those of their loved ones to help Jews

during those dangerous times.

Our visit to Assisi was arranged so that we could meet a gentle 92 year old priest Don Aldo Brunacci. With the assistance of two others, he had saved at least 200 Jews by hiding them in his monastery and at the nearby convent of the St. Clares. Walking the medieval pathways of Assisi today, one hardly notices the doorway to these places of rescue during the Holocaust. No Jews were residents, yet every Jew who entered the town was assisted to avoid deportation. No one in the entire town let it slip that this rescue operation was going on, yet many were aware of it. It became known as a quiet haven for Jews.

The Nazis found out about Father Brunacci's efforts and arrested,

interrogated and imprisoned him.

I was struck by his complete lack of concern for recognition and the total look of goodness in his eyes. We were very fortunate to have been able to meet him. Father Brunacci, too, was honored by Yad Vashem.

Finally, we went to Jerusalem. After all we had seen, we were so grateful that Jews now have a place where we are able to be Jews. I loved seeing mezuzahs on *every* door in our Jerusalem hotel! I really appreciated the fact that *every* hotel in Israel offers kosher meals and that the country closes down to honor and celebrate Shabbat.

After having visited Auschwitz, we all deeply appreciated Israel's existence.

KOL ISRAEL FOUNDATION
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Cleveland, Ohio 44121

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