

# The History of the Siegel Family Distributed at the 1980 Reunion 1990 Update (appendix A) & Misc 2016

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# INTRODUCTION TO THIS DIGITAL BOOK REPRODUCTION

## *Our past is what links us all together.*

What follows is a digital copy of the original family reunion book written, published and distributed at the 1980 “Siegel Family Reunion.” Many family members collected the stories of other family members, Dianne Siegel originally organized and typed the document on an IBM typewriter and Sam & Ione Siegel managed the photographic reproductions, printing and bookbinding.

The original printed book was scanned, run through optical character recognition software, edited for conversion errors, reformatted to match the original as closely as possible, and put on the Internet by Dianne and Leighton Siegel. The index reflects page numbering on this digital version.

The stories in this history remain as interesting and fun to read as they were long ago, perhaps even more so with the passage of time.

### **WHERE ARE THE REST OF THE FAMILY TREES?**

What has been removed, for purposes of privacy and security, are in-depth detailed portions of the family trees and many birth dates. Full, and continually updated family trees can be found on the family web site, but a user name and password are required and provided only to family members.

*Go to the “ INSTRUCTIONS – HOW TO FIND ” section in the middle of page 4 to learn how to get to the family web site.*

### **WHAT COMES NEXT?**

Over the past many years much has changed. Children have grown and new babies and spouses have been added or subtracted. Sadly, many family members are gone, as is the way of things.

Very soon a slide show of old Siegel family pictures will be added to the family web site as well as a new section called *Siegel Bits and Pieces* containing interesting newly discovered information about Mikhel Leyb Siegel, citizenship papers for Chaim Siegel, historic maps, and other family related documents. An updated Dorf Family history & tree is now on the family website that mainly to John Singer who has extensively researched the Dorfs. Mikhel Leyb was married to Pearl Dorf.

*Go to the “ INSTRUCTIONS – HOW TO FIND ” section in the middle of page 4 to learn how to get to the family web site.*

## OF SPECIAL INTEREST



The B'nai Abraham building in Virginia, Minnesota was once a synagogue

We are involved in a project to restore **B'nai Abraham**, a beautiful, but deteriorating and abandoned, historic building, in Virginia, Minnesota that was once a synagogue. It will house community cultural activities, exhibits and a small museum documenting the history of Jewish settlement on the Iron Range. It is the only synagogue building in Minnesota to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The project is remarkably interesting and worthy of support.

You can learn more at <http://www.IronRangeJewishHeritage.org>.

## INSTRUCTIONS – HOW TO FIND

Family trees, a digitized copy of the original 1990 Siegel family update, a slide show of old family photographs, and an updated Dorf Family history & tree as well as much more, can be found on [www.SiegelPhotos.net](http://www.SiegelPhotos.net). Scroll about 2/3 down the home page and click in the box on “Web site for the families of Dianne and Leighton Siegel”. Some of the list of items above are still in the works and if you don’t find it check back soon. **Full, and continually updated family trees can be found, but a user name and password are required and provided only to family members.** In the near future more pictures will be added and certainly any updates that anyone cares to pass along.

Let us know if you have additions (hopefully you do) or corrections.

## *Dianne & Leighton Siegel*

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## THE ORIGINAL BOOK BEGINS AFTER THIS PAGE

## **PREFACE**

Ah, Michel Labe, if only you could see us now. It is the year 1980 and your descendents in these United States of America are having a reunion. There are five generations of us, isn't that amazing? Could you possibly have imagined or even thought about so many of your "kinder" getting together and celebrating being a family, being YOUR family?

The following booklet contains all the information spoken and written by many, many family members. It is names and dates, stories and remembrances, and some pictures, too. It has been compiled with a great deal of help from many family members. The information is, of course, only as accurate as the memories of the informants. Sometimes the same event wasn't remembered in the same way. A project like this is never finished. I hope that every family member will add to this history and pass it on through the generations. If the memories and stories are not told and recorded, they are soon lost. Putting this history together has been a project I have very much enjoyed and I hope that others will enjoy it as well.

### ***Dianne Siegel***

(Mrs. Leighton Siegel) Historian and Recorder St. Paul, Minnesota, **August 1980**

I want to give special thanks to my mother-in-law, Rose Siegel, for her memories and for the idea that sparked the family reunion. I want to thank my husband, Leighton, for the work he did on the genealogical trees and for all his encouragement. A big thank you also goes to Sam and Ione Siegel for their special expertise in printing and producing this booklet in its final form for everyone to read.

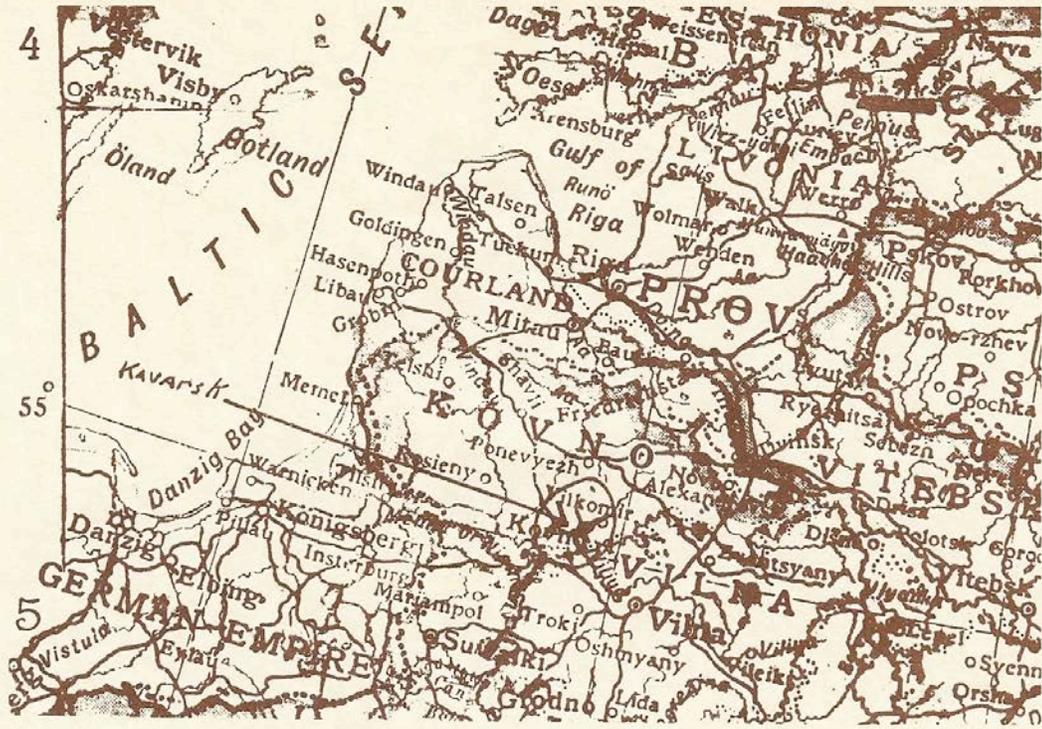
## **BEFORE THE BEGINNING - A BIT OF HISTORY**

We are a part of the Diaspora. Diaspora refers to the Jews dispersed through the world after being exiled following the Babylonian conquest of Palestine in 586 B.C.E. We are known as Ashkenazic (zim). We came by way of Babylonia and Mesopotamia through southern Russia and wound up in medieval times in Germany, Poland and elsewhere in Europe. The dialect of Hebrew we spoke came from Galilee and/or Babylonia and differs from the official dialect of Modern Israel. The official dialect is Sephardim, which came from ancient Judea. Sephardic Jews were dispersed to Spain and Portugal. The great majority of Jews in the world today are Ashkenazi.

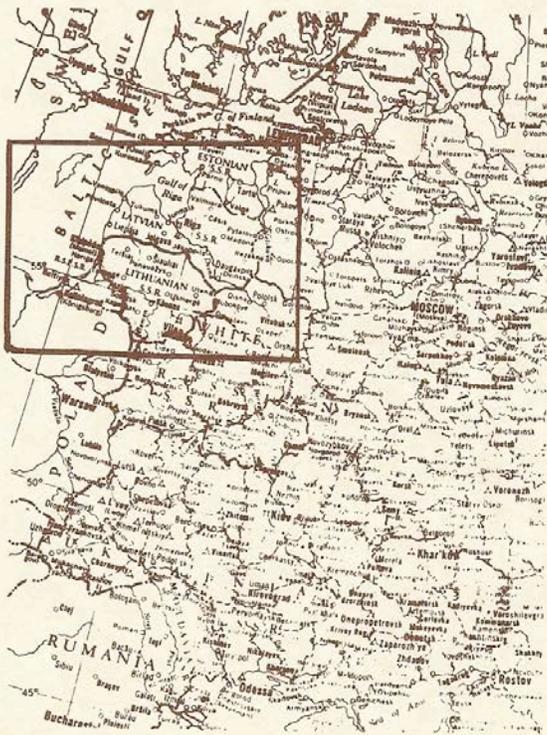
Medieval Jews lived in Poland and Lithuania because they were among the last countries to be Christianized. Lithuania did not accept Christianity until about 1400. The pagan Kings were more tolerant of Jews than Christian Kings who believed their salvation depended on the elimination of heretics.

Russia banned Jews until 1772. In 1772 Russia acquired a large area of Poland containing many Jewish people. By the laws of 1795 and 1835 the Russian Government limited its new Jews to the newly annexed areas, since known as the “Pale of Settlement”. This large area included Kovno, Vilna, Vitebsk, Minsk, and numerous other states extending from the Baltic to the Black Sea. In 1882 more than 1.5 million Jews who had managed to live outside the “Pale” were forced into it, so that by 1885 there were more than 4 million Jews living in this area.

The more fortunate members of our family managed to escape from the “Pale of Settlement”; others did not, as we shall see.



Above is 1913 map showing details of Kovno Gubernia and surrounding area. Kvarstk was located in Kovno Gubernia near Vilna.



To the left is a 1980 map of Eastern Europe and U.S.S.R. showing Lithuania.

## IN THE BEGINNING

Once, long ago, probably before the mid 1800's, there was a man named Chaim Segal. His son, Michel Labe ben Chaim is the very important and central person to this family history. There isn't a great deal known about Michel Labe or about his father, Chaim. What has been remembered is here to read. What we know for certain is that all the (Segals) Siegels that we include as our "mishpocha", are our family, and are all descended from this man and his wife, Pearl Dorf, or in some cases, from their sisters and brothers. We know even less about Pearl Dorf and her family. Again, what we do know is recorded.

The first Chaim was a Rabbi, or perhaps the son of a Rabbi, according to Carl Siegel. (There most probably were Chaims before the mid 1800s, but we are unable to go back in history.) Certainly, the first Chaim had remarkably learned and religious children. Besides his son, Michel Labe, there was another son, Mases Schmolenker, a daughter, Ida, who married Joe Williams, and another daughter whose married name was Frank. What is known about these people and their descendents will be discussed with "Other Known and/or Missing Relatives."

In Russia the family name was Segal. The Jews in Russia were not required to take surnames until 1844. Without a surname it was easier to avoid tax collectors and especially the Russian Army draft. It was a common practice for families to adopt a name, which reflected ones' occupation, physical characteristics, place of residence or former residence or reflect an acronym. Segal was a relatively common name in Russia and particularly in that part of Russia in and near Lithuania. Segal is an Ashkenazic name, which is an acronym for the Hebrew, segan leviyah meaning "assistant, or member, of the Levites". A famous person who was originally a Segal is Marc Chagall. He came from Vitebsk, which is city in Russia near what was then Lithuania.

Bess Siegel says that the change in spelling from Segal to Siegel took place when the first Segal immigrant came to this country through Canada, and was perhaps a misspelling by an immigration officer.

Sam Siegel believes that the name was changed to avoid confusion with an Iron Range German family who was also named Segal. Perhaps we will never know if the change was accidental or deliberate. At any rate, it may well have been the first Chaim or his father that took the original name of Segal, and it was probably Chaim, the son of Michel Labe and the first of the family to emigrate, that changed the spelling from Segal to Siegel. One more note of interest: According to Carl Siegel, the family has always considered themselves to be Israelites, not Levites as the name might indicate.

Michel Labe was probably born around 1847. He was an exceptionally tall man for his time, but not nearly as tall as his brother, Mases Schmolenker. Jane Siegel's grandfather, Mr. Sher, said that Mases Schmolenker was the tallest man in the dorf (town). The Siegel family came from a small village in Lithuania, called Vanog. It was a farm community with few families. In 1905, the family moved to Kavarsk in Kovno Gubernia (means State) in Lithuania. Kavarsk was near Vilna.

Michel Labe had a little shop where he sold groceries, eggs, and produce, some of which he purchased from farmers. He also sold fruit, which he harvested in his orchards. Michel Labe was also a peddler, carrying goods on his back and selling them to neighboring villages and Vilna. Fred Siegel, his youngest son, remembers that Michel Labe would leave to do his peddling and his big black coat would be filled with pins and needles. He would return at night with chickens in the pockets of his coat.

A prince owned the lands, in the area where Michel Labe and his family lived. The fields and orchards were rented for the season by Jews as well as by non-Jews. Jews, however, were not permitted to own land. The

negotiation for rental took place during blossom time. The harvested fruit was shipped out by railroad to larger cities as well as being sold in local markets. Michel Labe rented an orchard and he and his family harvested and sold the fruit. During the summer the children would camp on the land to protect their crop from thieves and vandalism. An average orchard had about one hundred trees.

The store that Michel Labe owned did not prosper. In business he was known as a man who did not bargain. He set one price that he felt was fair and then stuck to it. Perhaps he cared too much about his customers to make a good living selling goods to them. Anyway, he did not make enough profit and eventually he gave up the store.

Michel Labe was a very religious man and a scholar. He studied at night and knew 24 Gemorras. He wrote and knew history. He knew all of this at a time when few men were educated. The first village the family lived in had no "shul." Kavarsk, on the other hand, had three "shuls" so that the move to Kavarsk had religious advantages. Michel Labe taught Hebrew to his children and grandchildren and also had students from other families. He took over the Rabbi's job when no Rabbi was available. In his old age, it became increasingly difficult for him to get to the synagogue three times a day. There was a hill that he had to walk up and that made it even more difficult. Fruma, his youngest daughter and unmarried, took care of her father in his old age. With the money that her brothers from America sent her for a dowry, Fruma bought a piece of land and a house. There she and her father lived. She sold vegetables and he taught students. Michel Labe instructed Fruma to give all of his religious books, all of his Gemorras and all of his writings to the synagogue when he died. He was about 84 years at his death, considered quite an old man by the standards of the day. Michel Labe predicted his own death. He put on his tallis and died during the night. Hitler eventually took the house and the land that Fruma had bought.

Pearl Dorf Segal was from Smolinka. She died in 1896 when she was 35 years old. She and Michel Labe had eight children. Pearl was pregnant with the ninth child when she had a fatal accident. She heard a horse thief in the barn. Pearl tried to chase him away. In the process, the thief kicked her hard in the stomach. She hemorrhaged and died. Her daughter, Chya Rachel, then came home from Riga to take care of the other children. She raised them and was a mother to them.

During the First World War, Michel Labe, his daughter Fruma, his daughter Chya Rachel Delechky, her husband, Rafael Delechky and their children, were driven from their house. They slept in a cemetery for a week, and landed in a town named Glaboka. Rafael had been injured and was unable to work so the whole family got busy. The older sisters baked cookies and sold them. One sister stood in a soup line for the others. Michel Labe set up a table and sold buttons and threads. His granddaughter, Minna Delechky sat next to him and sold sunflower seeds.

Betty Susnowitz, Chya Rachel's daughter, remembers her grandfather, Michel Labe as being very philosophical. He taught Betty and her brothers Hebrew and in the process she remembers what he would tell her: "Flowers are God's jewels," "Clouds are God's paintings," "When you are too lazy to work, the bread cries." When Betty asked him what the last saying meant, he replied, "When you believe in God you know all the answers."

# THE DESCENDENTS OF MICHEL LABE SEGAL AND PEARL DORF

The story and history of their descendents follows.

MICHEL LABE SEGAL (b.1847 – d.1930) m. PEARL DORF (b. 1855 – d.1890)

I. CHYA RACHEL m. Rafael Delechky

II. CHAIM (1882 - 1953) m. Pia Milavitz (d. 1966)

III. CHONA (HARRY) (d. 1951) m. Ida Jorre (1882 - 1980)

IV. JENNIE (1883 - 1945) m. Charles Ostrov (1886 - 1933)

V. JOSEPH (1885 - 1937) m. Sarah Levine

VI. FRUMA (b. 1893 – d. 1939)

VII. CARL (b. 1893 - 1987) m. Bess Rothchild

VIII. FRED (b. 1895) m. Anne Sher (b. 1902)



Chya Rachel



Fruma



Michel Labe

Here lies buried  
our Father, the  
Learned and God  
Fearing Michel  
Labe, son of  
Chiam, who  
departed in the  
year of 1930, in  
the first day of  
Shvat.  
May his Soul  
Rest in Peace.



Carl - Joseph - Chiam - Chona - Jennie - Fred

**CHYA RACHEL SEGAL**



Betty



Raisel



Pearl



Chya Rachel Siegel  
m.  
Rafael Delechky



Grocery Store house/Betty's Photography Shop



Chana

back row;  
Moishe,  
Pearl &  
Yankel Ber-  
man, Minna,  
Raisel Ber-  
man, Avra-  
ham, Chiam  
& Chana Fav-  
in.  
Front Row:  
Rafael &  
Chya Rachel,  
Yitzchak  
Berman &  
Liebe Favin.



- I. CHYA RACHEL m. Rafael Delechky
  - A. PEARL M. Yankel Berman
  - B. MOISHE
  - C. ABRAHAM
  - D. MINNA d. 1980? m. Faviel Chaet
  - E. CHANNAH m. Chaim
  - F. RAISEL m. Noah Pazol
  - G. BETTY b. 1918 m. Art Susnowitz

The firstborn child of Michel Labe and Pearl Dorf Segal (Siegel) was Chya Rachel. She had been in Riga with an Aunt and Uncle learning to make wigs when she heard that her mother, Pearl, had been killed. She returned home to help care for the family. Chya Rachel remained in Europe all of her life. She married Rafael Delechky. They had six children, two boys named Moishe and Abraham and five girls named Minna, Raisel, Betty, Pearl and Hannah.

Chya Rachel and Rafael tried desperately to get the children out of Russia before World War II. When visas were applied for, the boys were immediately taken into the service. They were killed during the War.

Minna survived the Second World War and settled in Vilna. She had a daughter, Tanya, who is an artist. Tanya has exhibited in Moscow and Czechoslovakia and has illustrated an opera for children. Minna died in 1980. Tanya is still living in or near Vilna. During World War II Minna was trying to save a school of orphan children. She was wounded in the process and woke up in the hospital without ever knowing the fate of the children. She did find a Jewish child wandering on the streets during the War. Minna took her in and raised her. That girl was married out of Minna's house. Chya Rachel had done a similar thing during the First World War. She found an orphan child who was wearing a cross. Chya Rachel raised that child as a Catholic.

Raisel Delechky went to Buenos Aires, Argentina before the Second World War. There she married Noah Pazol. They had two daughters, Bertha who married Tito and Raquel who married Mario. Raquel has two daughters and Bertha also has two children. Raisel and Noah also had a son, Rafael, who was married in Israel and now lives in Paris, France. He and his wife have a son and a daughter. Raisel is deceased.

Pearl was married to Yankel Berman, a cousin. They had three children~ Raisel, Yitzhak, and Vichke.

Hannah was married to Chaim ~ They had a daughter, Liebe.

I believe that both Hannah's family and Pearl's family perished during the War.

Betty Delechky was born in 1918. She came to the United States in 1938 and stayed with Bess and Carl and then with her Aunt Jennie in Virginia, Minnesota. Betty said, "When I came to this country, I could speak seven languages, but only three words of English." When Betty left Minnesota, she went to New York, Detroit, and eventually wound up in Cleveland doing factory work. She stayed with Max and Blanche Dorf, relatives of her grandmother, Pearl Dorf Segal. For a long time, Betty didn't like the United States. She was unhappy with her personal life during World War II and the inability of anyone to get her family members out of Russia. It was difficult to become accustomed to a new country. For a while, she went to Mexico City. While there, Betty decided to visit a friend. Intending to stay two weeks, Betty stayed permanently. (Eventually I found her living in San Francisco.) She married Art Susnowitz and they had three children. Art was an accountant. Following an accident, he lost his eyesight and Betty and Art then opened a Book and Sweet Shop. Art is deceased.

Betty and Art had three children: Raphael, Carol Joy and Sally Esther.

Raphael is a mechanical engineer. Carol Joy is married to Frank Buonagurio. She majored in math and economics and graduated magna cum laude. She is currently studying to be a computer operator. Sally Esther attends the University of California at Berkeley. She is working on her PhD in Rhetoric.

Betty lists as her hobbies, handiwork, such as arts and crafts, crocheting and needlepoint, and reading. She enjoys people and is an excellent baker. She is involved in Senior Citizen activities in San Francisco.

# CHAIM SIEGEL



John, Anne, Clarence with Ruth Walt.



Pearl



Anne



Anne Marans, Pearl Walt, Isadore, Clarence & John with Chiam & Pia.



Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary



Chiam & Pia Milavitz Siegel with Pearl, Anne and Isadore.



II. CHAIM SIEGEL b. 1882 d. 1953 m Pia Milavitz d. 1966

A. PEARL b. 1897 d. 1959 m. Ben Walt b.1890 d. 1953 (Ben later married Goldie Gardner)

B. BEN ISADORE SIEGEL b. 1900 d. 1952 m. Sarah Barr (Sarah later married Charles Charnis)

C. ANN SIEGEL b. 1906 d. 1995 m. Albert Marans b. 1895 d. 1968

D. CLARENCE b. 1911 d. 1978 m. Rose Ostrin b. 1914 d. 2001 (Rose married Leon Bernstein 1986)

E. JOHN b. 1912 d. 2005 Jane Sher b. 1914 d. 2004

Chaim Siegel is remembered as a man with a heart of gold and a man that was loved by everyone. How to describe him? He was good looking, and big and strong like his father, Michel Labe. It is said that he could lift 400 pounds of salt and make it seem like nothing. Chaim, like all the Siegels, loved to fish. He was also a marvelous swimmer. He was a good husband and father and he wins the prize for having the most descendents.

Chaim Siegel, born in 1882 in Lithuania, was the second child and the firstborn son of Michel Labe and Pearl Dorf Segal. Chaim was named after his paternal grandfather, Chaim. He married Pia Milavitz. It was an arranged marriage in Europe. Shortly after the wedding, the two of them left for the United States. Chaim was the first in his family to emigrate. Again, like many other immigrants before and after him, he left to escape the Russian Army. Either in Europe or on arrival in the United States, Chaim and Pia were separated because Pia had something wrong with one of her eyes. Chaim waited alone in New York until they were reunited. First, the two of them lived in New York. In 1897, Pearl was born and in 1900 Isadore was born, the first two of five children. The family then moved to Superior, Wisconsin. Later, they moved from Superior, where Anne was born in 1906, to Eveleth where Clarence was born in 1911 and John was born in 1912. Still later, the family moved to Virginia, where at long last they stayed. Chaim was a cattleman, buying cattle, slaughtering it in his slaughter house and selling it to others in town, such as his brother Carl, who would in turn cut up and sell the beef.

There are many, many stories about Chaim, some of which have been repeated here. These memories are part of the life story of a man who was loved and respected and at the same time added his personality to the life of the town and to the lives of those around him.

Stories: Have you ever heard of "Siegel's Airplane?" This was the name of Chaim's truck, a wooden International Harvester that had no windshield and therefore was named "Siegel 's Airplane. " One day Chaim brought two gorgeous heifers into town for Carl to buy. Carl went to the truck to inspect the calves and they were nowhere to be seen. The calves had escaped through some broken slats in the truck and were never found again.

Chaim was reputed to be a terrible driver. There is another story of how he received a safe driving award the day after driving into a store. Fortunately for us all, there wasn't much traffic in those days.

Rose Siegel remembers driving with Chaim from one town to another. She said, "Pa, why are you driving on the wrong side of the road?" He replied that the road was better on that side. On the return trip, Chaim was again on the wrong side of the road. Same question and of course, same reply.

This story comes from Rolland and Ada Walt: Many years ago, all the Siegels went fishing at Vermillion Lake. On the way to the Lake, Grandpa Chaim Siegel saw a farmer out in the field dressing a cow, which was strung up on a tree. He had Ben Walt stop the car and Chaim bought all the tallow from the farmer and put it in a gunny sack. Everyone fished all day, but had no luck. On the way back, the game warden stopped the car and

made an inspection to see if more than the limit of fish had been caught. When he saw the sack "full" he turned the sack upside down and all the tallow came pouring out. What a laugh when the game warden had to put all the tallow back in the sack!

This story is from Helen Eder Lattin, but was sent in by others as well: Grandma and Grandpa Siegel were living in Eveleth on Harpes Street. Grandma decided that their bed would look better on the opposite side of the bedroom so she moved it. That night, grandpa went up to the bedroom. It was their habit to conserve electricity and anyway, why bother to turn the lights on when he was getting right into bed? So -- Chaim jumped into bed, as was his habit, right where he thought it was and fell flat on the floor. He yelled at Pia and she said nothing. Next day, the room was changed back to the original way - nothing said. That night, same scene, same action - Grandpa jumped into bed, where he thought the bed was from the night before, and again landed on the floor. Helen still remembers her mother, who was most fortunate in having inherited the Siegel disposition, laughing with tears in her eyes as this story was told.

Helen Lattin shares another story with us: Grandpa had a tough day as most of them were, except for Shabbat. His body ached, so before bed, he asked Grandma where the liniment was - where else, but in the medicine cabinet? Again, no lights. The big bottle smelled like liniment - ah! a "machia". Morning came - Chaim felt so good. Grandma couldn't figure out why the bed clothes were so oily until she saw the open "liniment" bottle - a bottle of Old English furniture polish that was kept in the medicine cabinet, where else? Ann Marans remembers the liniment story also, but her recollection was that he used it after his Friday night ritual bath and added greatly to the aromatic atmosphere of that Friday night dinner.

Sam Siegel remembers another story: Pia often took Chaim's money out of his pocket when he was sleeping. One day, Chaim decided to outwit her and he put the money into the stove, figuring it would be a good hiding place. Unfortunately, Pia turned the stove on.

Several relatives remembered the story about the stagecoach that was owned by Chaim and Chona and that ran between Eveleth and Virginia. A man named McGillvery gave the men a great deal of trouble, including poisoning the horses. In addition to the troubles, Chaim was worried that streetcars would put them out of business. The brothers sold the stagecoach business for \$100.00. The franchise was eventually sold to the Fitzgerald Bros. of Montana and was the beginning of the Northland Greyhound Bus Lines.

Gerry Walt retells the story of Pia having a Ben Walt poker game raided the night that Helen was born. She was so angry that Ben Walt wasn't at the hospital with Pearl that she called the sheriff.

Pia was a wonderful cook and baker. She is particularly remembered for her sour dough rye bread. Pia continued to bake her bread for the residents after moving to the Sholom Home in St. Paul. Pia died in 1966.

Chaim died in the early 1950's. When he died, Chaim had the longest funeral procession of anyone in Virginia.

Chaim and Pia had five children: Pearl, Isadore, Ann, Clarence and John. Pearl and Isadore were born in New York, the others were born in Minnesota.

Pearl Siegel was the firstborn child. Pia introduced Pearl to Ben Walt who she was to marry. There is a story told that Pia would tie one of Ben's legs to the bedpost so that she could be certain that he would not sneak off to visit Pearl at night until they were married. Ben and Pearl lived in Virginia, Minnesota. They were married for 42 years. Ben owned and operated a men's clothing store. He operated his business in the old world manner, bargaining for every item. Besides the clothing business, Ben bought furs and hides. Ben was an avid fisherman. He frequently fished with Carl and Fred and the three of them were known as the three musketeers.

Ben also loved parties and he was an avid poker player. Pearl was a good mother and a good homemaker. She loved to bake and Sophie Ostrov remembers that it was Pearl that taught her to bake. Pearl died at age 60. Ben Walt married again. His second wife was Goldie Gardner who now lives in St. Paul. At one time Goldie was active in the Yiddish Theatre and entertained by singing.

Ben and Pearl Walt had four children: Ruth, Helen, Sherman and Rolland.

Ruth, the first child of Pearl and Ben Walt, was first married to Morris Greenspan who is deceased. She is now married to Irving Bitterman and lives in Florida. Ruth lived with Grandma Pia and Grandpa Chaim for the first eight years of her life. At birth she weighed just two pounds. Grandma Pia felt that Pearl was much too young and incapable of caring for such a tiny infant, and besides the doctor had prescribed milk from a Guernsey cow, which Grandpa Chaim Siegel owned.

Helen, the second child of Pearl and Ben Walt, married Sam Eder who is deceased. Helen and Sam had four children: Myra, Cheryl, Joanna and Karen. Helen is now married to Martin Lattin. They own and operate a gift and jewelry shop in Southfield, Michigan and enjoy boating.

Myra, the first daughter of Helen and Sam Eder, lives in Chicago. She tells us about herself: "The 'Myra story' is long and many have said very interesting but suffice it to say that I went to college, got the standard B.S. and M.A. degrees, taught school and married a nice Jewish professional just as I was supposed to do. Three children later the marriage was shattered and so were we. All I could think of was 'What's a nice girl like me doing in a situation like this?'"

To summarize, I moved into a small home, found myself virtually unemployable after seven years out of the full-time job market, and decided I wouldn't remarry for several years. Well - obviously I found a decent job in insurance with John Hancock and subsequently moved into a slightly better and certainly more convenient job near home. I also met Dennis at Parents Without Partners. We never planned for the relationship to go anywhere but it did -- and we are both glad of that. We were married in June of 1979 about five years before my target date for remarriage."

Myra and Dennis Guindon live in Chicago. Myra's children are:

Jessica Gross, Joshua Gross and Todd Guindon, Dennis' son from a former marriage. Besides being a group claims examiner, Myra teaches religious school. Her favorite hobby is photography.

There are many memories that Myra has shared: "Aunt Bess and Uncle Carl's cottage." "Sitting on the top bunk and reading comics while Aunt Bess and Babi (Pearl) cooked." "Zada Ben, Uncle Carl, and Sammy Eder (Daddy) used to go fishing -- all day." "Dad with his hat and red nose." "Paul and Sophie Ostrov's cottage with the water pump and the pot in the middle of the cottage to 'pish' in at night." She remembers when Charlie Ostrov had poison ivy one summer and he was so uncomfortable. She remembers laughing and giggling with Jeannie Ostrov about growing up. "Everyone was so excited when Babi and Zada finally bought a home and moved out of their flat above Zada's store. And then so soon, Babi was gone. It just didn't seem fair to a sixteen year old. How long does it take before we learn that life isn't always fair but that somewhere - in some way - there is some type of organization to everything." "Babi's blueberry pie and Grandma Pia Siegel's sour dough rye bread. Does ANYONE have her recipe?" "Aunt Bess and Uncle Carl's boys - I haven't forgotten them over the years. They always treated me like a special little girl."

Cheryl is the second daughter of Helen and Sam Eder. Cheryl has been married 14 years to Stan Chodun who teaches science. Cheryl is a writer-producer for ABC news, channel 7 in Michigan. They have two children,

Pam and Scott. They have a wonderful Golden Retriever, love to camp, ski and spend time together as a family.

Joanna is the third daughter of Helen and Sam Eder. She is living in California. Joanna is a carpenter. Her hobbies are juggling, trapezing, painting and gardening.

Karen is the fourth daughter of Helen and Sam Eder. She is married to David Bernard. David is a deputy sheriff and is a medical officer at the county jail. Karen is the assistant manager in customer service for a Michigan based insurance company. She is working on a master's degree in management and economics. David is also going to school, studying Biology and teaching C.P.R. and first aid for the American Red Cross.

Sherman Walt is the third child of Pearl and Ben Walt. Sherman is the first chair bassoonist with the Boston Symphony Orchestra and has been honored as the world's greatest bassoonist.

The following is taken from a newspaper clipping by Marty Martinovich. "When a home town boy scales the heights of the music world and is rated in the country as tops in his field you could say 'Home town boy makes good' and leave it at that."

As a young boy, Sherman showed unusual talent. So the story goes, his uncle, Dr. John Siegel of Virginia, presented him with a ukulele, an instrument he had never seen before. That same evening, Sherman was singing and accompanying himself with near perfect chords. Later, when he wanted to enter the Virginia High School band, Vernon Malone, the band director, handed him a bassoon and told him to play it. Sherman practiced for hours on end and it was said he even took his instrument on fishing trips and was the first to get up in the morning to serenade his sleepy companions and lakeshore residents.

Sherman attended Virginia Junior College and later graduated from the University of Minnesota and the Curtis Institute of Music at Philadelphia. He has traveled throughout the world with the Boston Symphony. He has been in China twice and has played with the Peking Philharmonic of the People's Republic of China.

Sherman Walt was formerly married to Gerry Bolter Walt. They have three children: Stephen, Barbara and Nancy.

Stephen Walt is married to Marlene. He is a psychologist and Marlene is a professional singer. They have two boys: Matthew and Timmy.

Barbara Walt is married to Daniel Gustin, who is the administrative assistant of the Boston Symphony. They have a daughter, Elizabeth.

Nancy Walt is married to John Partridge.

Rolland Walt, the youngest son of Pearl and Ben Walt, is married to Ada and they live in Southfield, Michigan. Rolland has been in the retail furniture business. His hobbies include fishing (a Siegel tradition) and his U.S. paper money collection. They have three children: David, Judith and Gary.

David Walt has a PhD in Chemistry and Pharmacology and does research. His wife, Michele May, is a CPA for the New England Life Insurance Company. They both like to ski and camp and play softball.

Judy Walt is a graphic artist at General Motors.

Gary Walt is studying law.

Isadore Siegel, the second child of Chaim and Pia Siegel, was born in New York City. Isadore was a businessman in Chicago. He was originally in the grocery business. When the Second World War began, he went into the cosmetics and chemical products business with his brother-in-law. Isadore and his brother-in-law were pioneers in the production of aerosol products. His brother-in-law was written up in the Reader's Digest because he hired many handicapped people. Isadore was married to Sarah Barr. They had no children. Isadore died at a young age. Sarah has now remarried. Her husband is Charles Charnis and they still live in Chicago.

Ann, born in New York, is the third child of Chaim and Pia Siegel. Ann was married to Albert Marans. She is a graduate of the University of Minnesota and has a degree in secondary education. Ann loves to travel and has done so extensively. She likes to read, and is an excellent bridge player. Al, her husband, was the manager in the State of Michigan for Continental Coffee Company. Al is now deceased. They had one son, Robert W. Marans.

Robert Marans has his PhD in Social Research and has authored three books in that field. He is a professor of architecture and urban planning at the University of Michigan. He has planned a sub-division with another man for Kerrigat, Israel. He was sent back to Israel by the U.N. to make a report on it. Bob taught for six months at Tel Aviv University having won a Fulbright award. This year, Bob was invited by the Israeli government to teach two weeks out of the year at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

Bob is married to Judy Bloomfield. Besides being a mother and wife she has a Masters Degree and teaches kindergarten. Judy likes to play tennis. Bob lists his hobbies as stamp collecting, backgammon, travel and senior citizens swimming. He swims competitively for Ann Arbor's Senior Citizen Swimming Team.

Bob and Judy Marans have two daughters: Gayl Elizabeth, and Pamela Jo.

Gayle Marans is entering her last year of high school where she will be the captain of the tennis team. Her father says that she is a highly motivated individual and hopes to attend a top-flight university away from Ann Arbor and might even consider Minnesota. She enjoys travel to both big cities and wilderness areas. "She celebrated her ninth birthday on the Middle Fork of the Salmon River on a float trip, and her fourteenth birthday was celebrated with breakfast in Tel Aviv and dinner in Rome."

Pam Marans likes to travel also. Her father says "Animals as well as people fascinate her, be they camels in the Sinai, cobras in Morocco or pigeons in Trafalgar Square. Pam is also a one-sport enthusiast and participates in all kinds of gymnastics events.

The fourth child and second son of Chaim and Pia Siegel, Clarence, was born in Eveleth, Minnesota in 1911 and died in 1978. He attended Eveleth High School and studied medicine at the University of Minnesota, graduating in 1938. His internship was served at Ancker Hospital in St. Paul. It was during that year that he secretly married his wife, Rose Ostrin. Doctors in internship at that time were not supposed to get married. Clarence was in the U.S. Army from 1938 - 1940. The next six years he practiced in Tuberculosis Sanatoria. He was on the staff of Glen Lake Sanitarium and he was superintendent at Ottertail County Sanitarium. He was a pioneer in research, working in medical treatment of tuberculosis. In 1946, Clarence went into private practice in St. Paul and specialized in Internal Medicine, with emphasis upon diseases of the chest. He was board certified in both diseases of the chest and allergy. His patients loved him and were most unhappy to see

Clarence retired in 1969. Rose and Clarence spent their retirement years between West Palm Beach, Florida and St. Paul, Minnesota.

Clarence loved people regardless of their status in life. This was reflected in his friendliness and generosity. His myriad philanthropies included "The Siegel Family Scholarship" for Rabbinical and Cantatorial students, a large endowment to the St. Paul Jewish Federation and Zionist Scholarships in Israel.

After Clarence died, his wife, Rose, established the "Clarence and Rose Siegel Jewish Cultural Series" for the benefit of the St. Paul Community.

Ballroom dancing, especially the Latin dances, were the rage in the 1940's. Clarence and Rose loved it. In fact, they accumulated a closet full of trophies because they won every dance contest they entered.

Clarence also had the Siegel love for fishing and the Siegel sense of humor. He would love to order purple tea in restaurants and then be amazed that the waitress couldn't serve it to him. Gerry Walt and Rose Siegel remember an afternoon Open Rehearsal Concert of the Boston Symphony when Rose and Clarence were visiting with Sherman and Gerry. Gerry and Rose sat with the audience listening to the music. (Clarence had been left backstage visiting with Sherman and his fellow musicians). Then out of the doors in the center of the stage, Clarence entered. He walked onto the stage and sat down in the midst of the orchestra. After the concert, the musicians began to disperse. The conductor, who was at that time, Charles Munch, rushed up to Clarence, shook his hand and thanked him profusely for coming to the performance. After all, anyone who walks in and sits on the stage in the middle of a Boston Symphony concert must be a very important person! After the concert, all had a big laugh.

Rose Siegel has been an innovator and has held out a helping hand to community friends and family alike. She served on the Boards and committees of the Federal Anti-Poverty programs, the St. Paul Public School system, Jewish Federation, Family Service and Israel Bonds - to name a few.

She conceived and launched the important gala Sholom Ball for the Twin Cities, which benefits the Sholom Home, the Jewish Home for the Aged. Through her leadership and fund raising abilities, the Israel Bond Fashion Show was brought to St. Paul. Rose is the recipient of the Tower of David and Woman of Valor awards of the National Women's Division of Israel Bonds.

Community, friends and family alike tapped her talents and flair for interior design, interior decorating and entertaining many times through the years.

Rose enjoyed writing. Much of her work was published locally. Her hobbies include bridge, poetry, traveling and walking.

Clarence and Rose had three children: Leighton, Andrea and Carolyn.

Leighton Siegel is a physician, specializing in Ear, Nose and Throat (Otolaryngology) and practicing medicine in St. Paul, Minnesota. He is a Clinical Assistant Professor on the staff of the University of Minnesota and is involved in teaching medical students and residents. Leighton loves to travel, enjoys classical music, racquetball, camping, skiing and reading, especially science fiction. He is an excellent photographer and recently had an exhibit of his work. Leighton is also interested in art, especially art of Southeast Asia. While serving in the Air Force in the Philippine Islands for two years, he had the opportunity to travel throughout Asia, to develop this interest and to start his extensive Southeast Asian art collection.

Leighton married Dianne Ziskin in 1966. Dianne has a B.A. in Psychology from the University of Minnesota, and a Masters Degree in Social Work from the University of California at Berkeley. She is currently the Supervisor of Senior Services at the Jewish Community Center in St. Paul. Dianne enjoys racquetball, skiing, bicycling and camping with the family. She also enjoys ceramics, gardening and reading.

Leighton and Dianne Siegel have three children: Pamela Beth and Lesli Robyn, twins, and Jeffrey Brian. The family also has a Golden Retriever named Sam and a Cockatoo named Ebon. Ebon came back with Leighton from the Philippines. For many years, beginning with Leighton's internship in Sacramento, California, another bird was part of the family. He was a Mynah Bird named Sebastian. While Leighton was in the Air Force, Sebastian lived with Rose and Clarence. Sebastian learned to say "Birds can't talk", "People are peculiar", "What the Hell" and other choice phrases. He learned to imitate Clarence's laugh and yawn and entertained the family for years. He was once excluded from being boarded at a pet store because the owner complained that the bird was insulting the customers.

The twins, Pam and Lesli Siegel, are very active and enthusiastic girls. They especially enjoy being in plays, which they have done extensively. One time, sharing the role of Cinderella, one played the part of Cinderella in rags, the other played the part of Cinderella at the ball. They both play the piano, and Lesli plays the flute. She has learned on her Grandfather Clarence's flute and is very proud of that. They also enjoy softball and have played on neighborhood teams for a number of years.

Jeffrey Siegel is particularly interested in sports of every kind, and plays baseball, basketball and soccer when each are in season. He also plays the piano. All of the children enjoy skiing and camping which the family does together.

Andrea Siegel is the second daughter of Rose and Clarence Siegel. Andrea has a bachelor's degree in teaching and a master's degree in Clinical Social Work. She works part-time in a hospital in Sacramento. Her husband is Robert Karsh and he is a Child Psychiatrist, with a private practice in Sacramento. Rob's hobbies are fishing and photography. The family shares a love for cross-country skiing. Andrea's hobbies are cooking, reading and bicycling. Andrea and Rob have two children: Julianne and Jonathan.

Julianne Karsh is a storyteller and poet. She is also an active participant in Adventure Girls and Soccer and an accomplished swimmer.

Jonathan Karsh participates in drama and plays. He is an avid soccer player, baseball player and swimmer. He has an extensive knowledge of football, including the names of every team and player.

Carolyn Siegel Mittler is the youngest daughter of Rose and Clarence Siegel. She grew up in St. Paul, Minnesota. Carolyn is married to Elliot Mittler and they live in Los Angeles. Elliot has a PhD in Social Biology. He is employed as a Business Consultant and is also a collector and an appraiser of art. Elliot enjoys racquetball and is a jogger. Carolyn has a Master's Degree in Nuclear Medicine and works in a hospital in Los Angeles. Besides her work, Carolyn is an avid horsewoman, riding and competing in horse shows in her spare time.

John Siegel, born in Eveleth, Minnesota in 1912, is the fifth child, third and youngest son of Chaim and Pia Siegel. He is a physician practicing medicine in Virginia, Minnesota. John is married to Jane Sher. John lists his hobbies as making money, numismatics, philatelist and fishing (of course). There is a story told about one of John's fishing trips. One day he was going fishing with Rolland Walt. They were driving down an old road in John's Packard, which had the battery under the seat. Unbeknownst to them the battery fell out of the car. The car went right on running, however, and it wasn't until the car stopped several miles down the road, that they

discovered what had happened.

John and Jane Siegel have three children: Phyllis, Kay Ruth, and Elliot.

Phyllis is married to Herman Gordon, a lawyer. They live in Texas.

Phyllis and Herman have two children: Nicole Michele and Steven Kenneth.

Kay Ruth is married to Myron Weber. They have a daughter, Deborah named in Hebrew after Clarence Siegel. The family lives in Calgary, Canada. Kay Ruth is a psychologist and Myron teaches Social Biology at the University of Calgary. Elliot is a psychologist and guidance counselor. He is currently living in St. Paul, Minnesota..

# CHONA (HARRY) SIEGEL



Pearl



Rose



Ida



Leona



Morton



Chona Siegel



Harry Siegel  
m.  
Ida Jorre



SEP 5 1951  
 DRIVER'S LICENSE NO. 270926  
 ISSUED ON LICENSEE'S 1ST BIRTHDAY AFTER SEPT. 30.  
 PREVIOUS LIC. NO. '51 SERIES -  
 NAME HARRY SIGEL  
 ADDRESS 3523 E 143 St.,  
 O. Cleveland OH  
 DATE OF BIRTH 9 21 81 M 160 5-6 brn  
 U.S. ADD. S. Same  
 OCCUPATION truckster  
 DATE 9/5/51

Rose & Sam Bennet, Burt & Joan Weiss, Ida & Paul Siegel, Pearl Weiss, Ellen & Steve Weiss.



- III. CHONA (Harry) b. 1881 d. 1951 m. Ida Jorre b. 1882 d. 1980
- A. MASHA deceased age 3
  - B. ROSE b. 1904 d. 1992 m. Sam Bennett d. 1971
  - C. PEARL b. 1920 m. Ed Weiss d. 1963
  - D. PAUL m. Lilian Cadkin
  - E. LEONA ANN d. 1986 m. Alfred Bard d. 1986
  - F. MORTON d. 1958 m. Jean

The third child and second son of Michel Labe and Pearl Dorf was Chona, also known to many by his English name, Harry. His wife was Ida Jorre. They were married in Europe. Ida was born in 1882 and died this year, 1980. They had six children: Rose, Paul, Pearl, Leona, Morton (deceased) and Masha (deceased at age 3).

Pearl Siegel Weiss, his daughter, described Harry: He was a chain smoker and always had a cigarette in his hand. He was 5 feet, 10 inches tall, and blond. Harry was an avid reader. He read three newspapers a day. He was a very orthodox man and learned in Hebrew and in Yiddish. He corresponded in Yiddish and spoke Yiddish at home so that his children would learn it. Harry always had a finger in a book. He would become so engrossed, that his ashes would always miss the ashtray and land on the floor. He also loved Pinochle and when he didn't play, he enjoyed kibitzing.

Rose Siegel Bennett has also contributed some history about her parents: Harry and Ida lived on the Range for several years. Rose thinks he may have been in the cattle business with Chaim. When Rose was three years old and Paul an infant, the family moved to Cleveland, Ohio. Ida had family in Cleveland. The family lived in an apartment on their property. Harry worked at a steel foundry, eventually becoming a foreman. Eventually, the owner sold out. Harry then tried a tailor shop, dry cleaning, and selling trousers while Ida repaired and made alterations. Harry also became a junk dealer and a fruit peddler. He would rent a horse and wagon and buy a load of watermelon and sell it. Rose remembers watching the wagon so that no one would steal the fruit. Harry also managed to pick up a very large grand piano. There were then piano lessons for his daughters.

Rose also remembers that one night while smoking in bed, his pajamas caught on fire. He jumped up and fled out of doors and sat down in the snow to extinguish the flames.

In 1919 or 1920, a nephew of Ida's came from Newark, N.J. and interested Harry in his bus business, which included owning and operating buses. They promised a rosy future. Harry went to New Jersey to investigate. He stayed, first working as a chauffeur, and then he bought a bus and sent for his family. An Uncle in Cleveland promised to collect the rents and take care of the 38th Street Building, which Harry owned in Cleveland. Rose remembers that the building was brick and that her parents installed electricity in the building and did away with the gas lights.

Rose writes about New Jersey: "The bus fare was five cents and I would bring Dad his lunch or supper and ride up and down the avenue. One day Paul, who was about 14 years old, decided to take the bus that was parked in front of the house. He took it to the garage about one block away. It shook everybody up."

Harry drove the bus for several years and then sold the permit and bus for about \$5000.00. He sold out because the Cleveland relatives wanted to be relieved of the care of the building. The family then moved back to Cleveland. Later, the family heard that the permits for the bus line were sold to the Public Services for \$70,000 and \$80,000!

Rose Siegel Bennett remembers a story: "It may have been August, 1926 when Uncle Joe Siegel of Biwabik and Cousin Joe of Detroit came to Cleveland to visit us. Uncle Joe's car was having bearing trouble; so Father took him to his mechanic who worked on the car and assured him that there would be no further problems. We then drove to Detroit. There was a stop over in Detroit and there we met Al Siegel. The men went to Shul that night for Yahrzeit. We got an early start and our troubles started again. In mid-Michigan and in a small town, we laid up again. The mechanic wanted to go home and take his time, but somehow Uncle Joe got him to work on the car all night! I slept in assorted automobiles and in the morning we hoped to get going. The bill was very big. I have no idea how big, but Uncle Joe and Cousin Joe gave him all the cash they had, a check and somehow my 2-1/2 gold piece landed in the pile. Uncle Joe promised to replace it since it was a gift to me. We were able to get a check cashed in Superior from Uncle Joe's friend, which should have been sufficient to get to Virginia that night. When we got to Duluth, the brakes went and we were held up a few hours and were cleaned out financially again. We were determined to make it home, as I believe Uncle Joe planned on going to the store in the morning. We drove through a heavy fog, arriving in Virginia way after Midnight.

Carl and Bess gave me a beautiful two months vacation on the range. When it turned cold early in October, I decided to return to Cleveland. P.S. Uncle Joe bought a new car in the spring as he had planned. "

Rose Siegel Bennett now lives in Miami, Florida. She was married to Sam Bennett (deceased), Rose talks a little about herself: She was born September 26, 1904 in Superior, Wisconsin. She moved to Cleveland when she was 3 or 4 years old. Rose recalls: "As a child, I remember my father taking my brother, Paul and I to the movies so that Mother had peace for a few hours. He would buy a very large Hershey Bar as a treat." One of Rose's first jobs was in a neighborhood candy store. She worked for a week and with her wages bought her first electric iron. At age 14 or 15, she was working after school and on Saturdays in a "Bargain Store." Her job was to oversee a table overloaded with shoes and to help the customers find their size. Rose moved to New Jersey with her family when she was 16. She learned typing, shorthand and bookkeeping in high school and after graduating, went to work in an office for \$14 a week. She learned to use the telephone at her job. The family had no phone at home, and if her friends called to date her, they did so at the corner grocery.

Rose moved back to Cleveland with her family when she was 18 and again got a bookkeeping job at a furniture store. She worked there until she married her husband, Sam Bennett, in June 1925. Rose says, "My husband was a kind, good person who had many bad breaks. He tried many business opportunities and was usually too early with his ideas and he gave up easily before he could benefit from his ventures. Before retiring and moving to Florida, in 1963, we ran a confectionery and sundries store for 13 years. In Miami, Sam got involved with a Farm Store and worked there until he didn't feel well. He turned to more volunteer work at the Veteran Administration and gave them over 2000 hours. He died in 1971."

Rose and Sam Bennett had two children: Pearl and Phillip.

Pearl Bennett was is the oldest grandchild of Harry and Ida. Pearl is married to Henri Chiari. She is currently a French and Spanish teacher in a senior high school in Florida. She is certified to teach K - 12 and has a secondary certificate, which includes English, Russian and Chinese. Her hobbies include travel, which she does extensively, and visiting zoos of the world.

Philip Bennett is a college Professor of Philosophy in Ithaca, New York. His hobbies include modern dance, writing, outdoor activities and carpentry. Philip has one daughter, named Allison.

Paul Siegel, son of Harry and Ida Siegel, is a physician in Ohio. Paul restricts his practice to bariatrics, acupuncture, nutritional consultation and orthomolecular psychiatry. Paul likes to ski, golf and he enjoys

music. His wife is Lillian. She is an expert bridge player (1500 master points), likes oil painting and loves golf. Paul and Lillian have two children, Judy and Marlene.

Judy runs a health food store and is a "super sales person". She has three daughters: Sharon, Robin and Lynn.

Marlene is currently studying Engineer Drafting in Florida and has been elected to Phi Beta Kappa. Her son, Marc, will be attending the University at Georgia Tech.

Pearl Siegel was born in July 1920 and is the daughter of Harry and Ida Siegel. She was married to Edward Weiss. He died in 1963. Pearl used to work in real estate; she was the travel editor for the Miami News travel and television section; and she was assistant purchasing agent in a hotel. Pearl likes to knit afghans for her whole family. She has a passion for the New York Times crossword puzzles, is an avid reader and prefers the company of men to women. Pearl now lives in Miami, Florida. Pearl and Ed Weiss had two sons: Robert (deceased) and Burton.

Robert Weiss was married to Barbara Cohen. They had a son Edward (Eddie). Eddie is an accomplished piano player. Barbara has remarried. Eddie's last name is now Sax.

Burton Weiss is married to Joanne Beshany. Burt is Vice-President of marketing for a small electronics company in Florida. He likes music violin and bass, snow skiing, boating and disco. Burt and Joan have three children: Steven, Ellen and David.

Steven Weiss is a third year medical student. He raises orchids for a hobby, is an excellent swimmer and enjoys boating. His foremost love, however, is medicine.

Ellen Weiss graduated in June from Harvard.

David Weiss is a teenager. The entire family are accomplished musicians.

Leona Siegel married Alfred Bard. He is a physician in Ohio in general practice. Leona teaches English to the foreign born and enjoys bridge, exercise and gardening. Leona and Al had two daughters: Vivian K. Raphael (deceased) and Jane who is married to Gary Meszaros.

Morton Siegel, the last child of Harry and Ida Siegel, was a physician in California. He is now deceased. His wife's name was Jean and they had three daughters: Karen, Lara and Marie.

Karen Siegel works with children in Riverside, California.

Lara graduated with a Masters Degree from Oxford. She is now in Paris.

Marie Siegel is the youngest of the children and has graduated from college.

**JENNIE SIEGEL**



Pearl



Pearl



Jennie Ostrov



Jennie Siegel  
m.  
Charles Ostrov



Paul Ostrov  
m.  
Sophie Kastner



Charles and Jennie in their store.



IV. JENNIE b. 1883 d. 1945 (emigrated 1907) m. Charles Ostrov (emigrated 1904) b. 1886 d. 1933  
A. PAUL b. 1910 d. 1980 m. Sophie Kastner b. 1910 d. 2001  
B. PEARL b. 1922 d. 1970 m. Ralph Luria

Many stories are told about Jennie Siegel Ostrov's warmth and her generous hospitality. Her home was always open to family and friends, the immigrant arrival and everyone in need of a temporary home.

Jennie Siegel was the fourth child of Michel Labe and Pearl. She was born in 1883 and came to the United States in 1909 with her friend, Evelyn Greenblat. First she lived in Aurora and kept house for Joe and Carl. Jennie married Charles Sherman Ostrov in 1909. He owned a jewelry store in Biwabik, Minnesota. In 1911, Jennie and Charles moved to Virginia. Charles had gone into the grocery business with Carl in 1918 and ran the business while Carl was in the Army. When Carl returned from the Army, Charles established another grocery store. The original store was on 1st Street and then moved in 1923 to its present site at 519 2nd Ave. S. For several years, Jennie operated a women's hat store adjoining Charlie's grocery store. Charles ran for Alderman in Virginia. He died in 1933 at the age of 47 following complications of a knee injury. After Charles died, Jennie continued to manage the business, although she could not read or write English.

Jennie was the only woman that the Siegel men would allow along on fishing trips. This was the highest compliment that they could pay her. Jennie always fished with at least three lines and sometimes four. Jennie was diabetic and died in 1950 at the age of 67 from a heart attack.

The following are stories that her son, Paul Ostrov, dictated to his wife, Sophie, shortly before Paul died in the spring of 1980.

"We had a candy kitchen and soda fountain alongside the grocery store. In the back part of the candy kitchen there were table and chairs for the customers to eat ice cream and sodas, and the boys used to come in and play cards during the afternoon and evening. The most popular game was "schmear" or high-lo-jack-game. One afternoon a well-dressed gentleman came in the candy kitchen. While my mother was waiting on him he asked her what she thought of Governor Floyd B. Olson, and what he was doing to the State of Minnesota at the time. She answered that she didn't think much of the governor or his administration. He put his hand across the counter and said, 'May I introduce myself, I'm Governor Floyd Olson.' They became well acquainted, and he would stop in the store and visit with her every time he came to Virginia. On one of his visits he saw the boys playing "schmear," and my mother asked him if he would like to play. He used to come in and spend the whole afternoon playing cards with her.

"My mother (Jennie) was the only woman my uncles would allow in the boat with them on fishing trips. When anybody had to relieve themselves she would say, 'Go ahead boys, I'll just turn around.'"

When prohibition law was passed, my father (Charles), Uncle Carl, Uncle Fred and Alec Berman bought out the stock of a saloon and put all of the cases of liquor in the basement of the house we were living in at that time. About 2:00 A.M. in the morning our dog started barking and howling. Everyone was sleeping upstairs and kept yelling at him to shut up. No one went down to investigate. The next morning we went down to the basement and found all the liquor had been stolen. They were passed out through a basement window. And the dog said, 'I called you!' " Sam Siegel added an addendum to this story. He said that all the liquor hadn't, in fact, been stolen, but two cases were with the cans and rescued. One day, the remaining bottles of liquor heated up to the expansion point and blew their corks and contents all over the attic. Out of the lot, the fellows salvaged about two bottles.

Another story from Paul: "When Sophie and I were first married, we went on a fishing trip with Uncle Carl. We fished all day long from early in the morning and it took all day to catch our limit. I was running the motor and Uncle Carl was taking care of the fish stringer. They were strung on a rope stringer. It was Sophie's first fishing trip. It was starting to get dark and it was time to go home. Carl says, 'Start the motor, we're going home.' We came into the dock and I took the motor off the boat and I said, "Carl bring in the fish." He started to pull in the string and I heard him swearing. He had forgotten to pull in the stringer when I started the motor, and on the way the propeller had cut the string in half and there were no fish."

"The family used to play poker every Saturday night --the Carl Siegels, the Fred Siegels, the Ben Walts, and our mom (Jennie), and the Ben Norvitchs. One Saturday night we were playing, nine of us, and the first hand that everybody received, everybody was raising and re-raising. At the last card dealt in that hand, it was the largest pot I had seen ever since we had played poker. When we laid down our hands, I had three aces and two kings, and one of the other hands had three kings and two aces. It seemed that there were eight of every high card on the table. Our children were watching us play and they were convulsed with laughter. They had taken all the high cards from two decks and put them together and forgot to put them back. Some of our men were candidates for heart attacks! "

Another fishing story from Paul Ostrov: "One afternoon Uncle Chaim stopped in the store and asked me to go fishing with him. He said he had found a real good lake for catching crappies. Of course I was always ready to go fishing. We were driving down the old Sand Lake gravel road about 55 miles an hour. All of a sudden Uncle Chaim makes a left turn onto a side road without slowing down and the car almost tipped over. And I said, 'Uncle Chaim, Why the Hell didn't you step on the brake to turn the corner?' His answer was 'I haven't got any brakes.' We got on the lake to fish and he said hurry up, start fishing. I put my line in and my back was to him, and I heard a loud splash. He had a large piece of iron shaped like a rake with large curved fingers on it tied to a rope, and he had thrown it into the lake and pulled the rope towards the boat, and cast the thing out again and then did the same thing again. I said 'What the Hell are you doing?' He explained that he had lost a rod and reel the day before, and came back to try and retrieve it."

Jennie Siegel and Charles Ostrov had two children: Paul and Pearl.

Pearl married Ralph Luria about 1947. She had a Masters Degree in Social Work and worked in that field. Pearl died in 1972 of surgical complications and is remembered as a kind and sensitive person who was too understanding of other people's problems. Pearl has two children: Idalah Naomi Rebeccah and David Mayer.

Idalah Luria studied theatre arts and graduated from the University of Minnesota. She is presently working in film production in Rome, Italy. David Luria is now living in the Portland, Oregon area. His given name was Mayer David Luria.

Paul Ostrov was born in 1910 and graduated from Virginia High School in 1929. He attended college for three years until his father died. He was then needed to help run the family grocery store. He married Sophie Kastner in 1935. Sophie was born in 1910 and came from Cleveland, Ohio. Paul met Sophie on a trip to visit relatives in Cleveland. Paul purchased the grocery business from his mother, Jennie in 1948 and enlarged and remodeled the store in 1953. The business was successful and was known throughout the Iron Range. Sophie worked side by side with Paul in the grocery store. The family lived above the store. In the 1960's, Paul and Sophie went to the state capital to protest a Sunday closing law that had been proposed. By the time they were finished with the politicians, the law failed to pass and the Governor personally asked them to please not come back.

Sophie told us a story about herself: When she was living in Virginia, she went to take her driver's test. She and the instructor were driving down the street. She saw Uncle Chaim Siegel. She yelled to him out the window and the instructor failed her in her driver's test.

Paul and Sophie loved Northern Minnesota. When they sold their grocery store in 1970, they enjoyed spending their summers at their home on Lake Vermillion. Their winters since retirement were spent in the sunny South, in Hallendale, Florida.

Paul was a friendly person who loved to meet and talk to all kinds of people. When they had to wait in long lines in Florida in order to get into restaurants, Paul, because of his bad knee, would sit in one of the chairs at the front of the line. By the time Sophie would reach him, he had met everyone in line and found at least one person who knew someone who knew someone he knew. He usually had at least one invitation to join another party for dinner or a telephone number to call the next day. Paul died unexpectedly in Florida on May 12, 1980 of an acute coronary.

Paul and Sophie Ostrov had two children: Charles Sherman and Jean. Jean's given name is Loretta Jean.

Charles Ostrov graduated from the University of Minnesota Medical School in 1962. He is a board certified Ophthalmologist and practices in Minneapolis, Minn. In June 1961 he married Marjorie (Margie) Ann Berkoff, from Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Margie graduated from the University of Minnesota with degrees in Education and Recreation. She teaches religious school and is involved in community activities. Margie also oversees the operation of the optical shop adjoining Charlie's office. Charley and Margie and their family enjoy fishing, swimming, boating and other outdoor activities at their Lake Comfort summer cabin.

Charley and Margie Ostrov have three children: David Abel, Sharon Lynn, and Daniel Howard.

David Ostrov is interested in math and science. He enjoys soccer, skiing, running, photography and fishing trips with his father. Sharon Ostrov (Sheri) likes gymnastics, plays the saxophone, likes to sing and she and Danny, her brother, are both jump rope champions. Danny Ostrov likes soccer, running and enjoys the out of doors.

In September 1961, Jean Ostrov married Barry Steiger from Danville, Illinois. Jean graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1962 with a degree in child development. Jean and Barry live in Carlsbad, California where Jean is a freelance writer and does public relations for a junior college. She has taught nursery school and enjoys reading, writing, swimming and hiking. Barry, her husband, graduated from Washington University in St. Louis in 1960 and is a board certified Internist and Cardiologist. Barry is a real horticulturist and takes pride in growing many types of fruit trees in his yard. He is also an amateur magician and enjoys photography. Jean and Barry Steiger have three children: Shawne Ellen and Brenda, Jill and Jeffrey.

Shawne Ellen Steiger is interested in drama, literature, music and writes poetry. Brenda Jill Steiger has built aviaries in their yard and raises birds. Jeffrey likes mime, likes to build contraptions, and plays the flute.

**JOSEPH SIEGEL**



Harold with William,  
Sandra and Margot.



Sarah & Harold



Harold



Sarah  
Harold  
Hannah



Joseph Siegel



Jo Silvian Doig,  
Josua & Julie Becker

Joe's Market



- V. JOSEPH b. 1885 d. 1937 m. Sarah Levin  
A. HANNAH m. Robert Levinson  
B. HAROLD b. 1919 d. 1989 m. Margo Averbacher

*Margot Siegel wrote this section.*

Though he was the fifth child of Michel Labe and Pearl Siegel, the Russian born Joseph, would, in a sense, become a father figure for the family. Born in 1885, Joseph was just 16 (?) when he came to the United States.

As it was for many of those early refugees, much of his life was decided by chance. He took an ore boat to the port of Duluth - and because he could neither read nor write English - his options were limited. Again the classic refugee story - he became a peddler in the Range area. Along the way a Mrs. Gallaczi (?) befriended him and realized his potential. Because Mrs. G. lived in Biwabik, a tiny mining town along Joseph's route, it was here he settled, in a most unlikely spot for a young Jewish man. (When Mrs. G. died, she left him her house.)

But Joseph prospered. With his earnings from peddling, he bought into many businesses - and with each step up, he became more of a personage in the small community, ending up as a bank director. As the years passed he was a real estate seller, a bar and liquor store owner, a hide and fur dealer (and, oh, what stories there were about that!). He had a grocery store and was a butcher- today he would be a one-man conglomerate, but Joe died too early, at age 52, to do all he could have accomplished.

Early-on Joe sent his brother Carl the money for a ticket to America. When Carl arrived Joe took him into business, but later he went on his own. Joe married Sarah Levine and they had two children, Hannah, then Harold. The marriage had its ups and downs, but finally, after separations, Joe and Sarah were together.

Family lore has it that the 5 foot 11 inch Joe was monumentally strong - in his youth he could shoulder 200 pound sacks of goods and walk around with them.

Joe is buried in Duluth. When Joe Siegel died, the whole town of Biwabik was closed up for the day - the first and only time that happened in the town's history.

Harold Siegel was born in Eveleth on January 10, 1919, Hannah earlier. Both are personalities in their own right. Harold Siegel, the six foot, six inch attorney and real estate developer, is well-known for his youthful exploits. Just ask any of the Siegel clan. It was the youthful Harold who "flew" between the Twin Cities and the Range in a series of red automobiles, most of them convertibles. It was Harold who was invited to leave several colleges and junior colleges, though he finally ended up as valedictorian of his law class at the St. Paul College of Law.

In the midst of his schooling, Harold became a private in World War II. His exploits there are legion. He was in on most of the Pacific landings and spent a year in the hospital after contracting encephalitis. It was the redoubtable Harold who fell off the dock one moonlit night while on guard duty. It seems he was just admiring the moon and missed his footing.

That such a romantic person should develop into the lawyer who devised dissident stockholder suits against segments of Detroit auto industry (and won) seems incongruous. Even now, Harold, who now specializes in downtown Minneapolis real estate, is planning his next corporate move -- rumor has it, in Hawaii!

He is married to Margot Siegel, an author/journalist/publicist. They met 42 years ago, but the battle of wills culminated in marriage just 23 plus years ago. Margot has published a book, *Look Forward to a Career: Fashion*. She is a former columnist for the Minneapolis Star newspaper and currently is a columnist for *Corporate Report Magazine* and *Twin Cities Magazine*. She is a former New York editor for Women's Wear Daily. Margot is the founder of the Friends of the Goldstein Gallery, the volunteer arm of the museum for design arts, located at McNeal Hall on the St. Paul campus of the University of Minnesota. She is included in Who's Who of the Midwest, Who's Who of American Women and Women in Communications. She was a member of The Overseas Press Club of America, a club for foreign correspondents. She wrote from France, Italy, Belgium for Fairchild Publications in the 1940's.

Margot and Harold Siegel have two children, William Joseph and Sandra Marguerite.

William Joseph Siegel is known as Bill. He is a second year law student at New York University and he has a B.A. in economics from Columbia University. Bill graduated from Blake School in Hopkins. He lettered in track and basketball at Blake and in crew at Columbia. He also has a batch of tennis trophies won in club competition. Bill has been a weight lifter since the age of 10.

Sandra Siegel has just taken exams for entry into law school and is now applying to schools. She is the secretary of the senior class at Barnard College in New York and has done some modeling over the years. Sandra is also a graduate of Blake Schools. She lettered in basketball, volleyball and badminton in high school. She is a John Jay Representative at Barnard and plays intramural basketball and soccer and is in Anthropology Club.

Hannah Siegel Levinson was the quintessential Marjorie Morningstar golden girl at the University, became a pharmacist and practiced for many years. However, she always had an artistic bent. At the age of 50 she chucked pharmacy and opened her own needlepoint and jewelry shop, "The Jeweled Needle." So successful was she that after a few years she decided to open a full fledged designer boutique, Valentino, on S. 10th Street. This, too, was a success. But deliveries from Europe were so slow that Hannah decided to add to her designer departments by "going discount." So successful has the discount concept been that "Le Shop", as the store, now at 926 Nicollet, is called, it is always expanding. The Minneapolis Star recently did a feature on it.

Hannah, now married to Robert Levinson, is the mother of Jo Silvian Doig, herself an attorney and political activist. Jo is the mother of Josua and Julie Becker.

## ***FRUMA SEGAL***

FRUMA b. 1893 d. 1939 no descendents

Fruma is the sixth child of Michel Labe and Pearl. She stayed in Europe and never married. The brothers gathered and sent money for her dowry, but she used the money to buy a house where she and her father lived. Fruma took care of her father through his old age. She made a home for him and together they managed to support their little household. The last known town where Fruma was living was Kowash in the State of Kovno. After Michel Labe died, Fruma became very reclusive. Chya Rachel's family looked after her and brought her food. She disappeared sometime during the Second World War, perhaps a victim of the War itself.

**CARL SIEGEL**



Palmer



Samuel

Sheldon



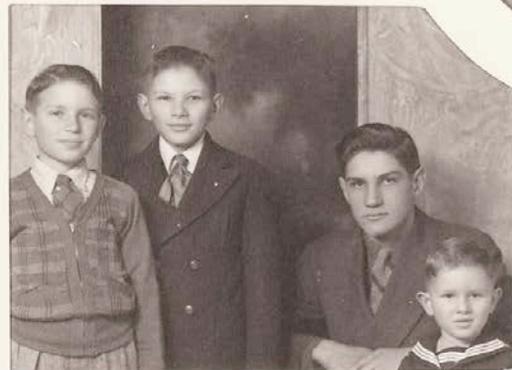
Marvin



Carl engaged to Bessie Rothchild.



Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary.



Palmer  
Sam  
Sheldon  
Marvin



Carl Siegel - WWI

- VI. CARL b. 1893 d. 1987 m. Bess Rothchild b. 1901 d.  
A. SHELDON b. 1922 m. Priscilla Rikess d. 2007  
B. SAMUEL b. 1926 m. Ione DuChamp b. 1928  
C. PALMER b. 1929 d. 1985 m. Sandy Rutman  
D. MARVIN b. 1935 m. Diane Jokela

Carl Siegel, the seventh child and fourth son of Michel Labe and Pearl Segal, was born in 1893. His mother, Pearl, died when he was 3 1/2 years old. At age 12, Carl was already in business, buying and selling eggs, chicken, hides and furs. He earned most of his money by working in the orchards that were leased by his father. People were hired to work in the orchards. Fruit was sold at the market in a nearby town and it was also sent to larger cities by railroad. Carl saved his money because he wanted to come to the United States. At age 15, Carl left Russia.

Carl received a second-class ticket from his brother Joseph. He wanted a second-class ticket because he had heard that second class was a much better way to travel. Carl did not have a passport. He paid off the soldiers and walked to Germany, which in those days bordered on Lithuania and Poland. He waited for three or four days in Antwerp, Belgium for a ship. There were Jews along the way that helped him. Escaping from Russia was an organized business and there was a regular route to travel. Carl came to Canada and took a train to Duluth. No one met the train in Duluth, so Carl continued on to Virginia. He walked around looking for another face that looked Jewish and when he found one, he asked that person for Joe Siegel. The family was surprised and delighted to see him. When Carl came to Virginia he was wearing high leather boots and the sidewalks in town were wooden. There was no question about Carl's destination in the United States. Virginia, Minnesota was the place where his family lived, all of them taking advantage of the opportunities that the mining towns had to offer.

At first Carl was a peddler. He worked with Joe, his brother, and later went into partnership with him. Carl went to night school to the fifth grade and learned to read and write. Through the years as he bought and sold cattle, hides, groceries and meat, he learned many languages from those who lived around him. He was drafted in the army, but received a medical discharge because of his eyes. Carl became a citizen in 1916.

Carl married Bess Rothchild. They had four sons: Sheldon, Sam, Palmer and Marvin.

Sheldon Siegel was born in 1922. He is a pediatric allergist in Los Angeles. Sheldon is married to Priscilla Rikess from St. Paul Minnesota. Priscilla says about her husband: "Sheldon is one of the top allergists in the country. He has received numerous awards through the years; the most recent was the Von Perquat Award from Georgetown University, Washington, D.C. This year he will be honored in Detroit, Michigan where he will receive the Bret Ratner Award."

Sheldon produces over a dozen papers a year that are published in various medical journals. He has many research projects going at all times. He teaches at U.C.L.A. and has trained dozens of doctors over the last twenty years. He is on many boards and is the past president of the American Academy of Allergy. He is the president of the Asthma Allergy Foundation for the last three years. We send about 80 asthmatic children to camp every year."

Priscilla continues about her husband Sheldon Siegel: "He is the best fisherman and an excellent photographer. He can do anything and everything and he is very nice besides. He sets very high goals for himself and has accomplished them all. He promises to slow down year after year, but who can believe that? Not me, his wife of 34 years."

Sheldon and Priscilla Siegel have two daughters: Linda and Nancy.

"Linda Siegel Brown followed her Uncle Marvin's footsteps and studied Mathematics. After graduating with a BA from UCLA, she became interested in computers and was accepted as a member of the technical staff at Hughes Aircraft Company. A company relocation required a job change, and she set out to work for Title Insurance and Trust Company. It was there she met and later married Robert Brown." Linda and Bob Brown reside in Torrance, California. Linda continues to work a few hours a week programming. Bob is a regional manager with General Computer Services. They have two children: Mark and David.

Nancy Siegel is married to Dennis Schneider. They have two children: Beth and Aaron Lewis. They also live in California.

Samuel Siegel, the second son of Carl and Bess Siegel, was born September 1926 in Virginia, Minnesota. He graduated from high school in 1944 and was in the Army until 1946. Sam graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1949 with multiple majors in Journalism, Business Administration, and Psychology. Sam was the editor, manager and director of advertising for clothing trade publications for seventeen years. He was the vice president and co-owner of Insty Prints for five years. Since 1970, Sam has been an independent creative printing broker. His hobbies and special interests include fishing, reading, cameras, cars and camping.

Sam married lone DuChamp in 1954. lone likes to read, needlepoint, do gardening and carpentry. She helps her husband Sam in their business endeavors. lone is an exceptionally capable and loving lady. Sam and lone have four children: Susan, David, Jennifer and Lisa.

Susan Siegel is the manager and co-owner of People's Clothing, a manufacturing and retailing men's and women's clothing store. She is a designer and a pattern maker. Her hobbies and interests are painting, gardening, natural foods, weaving, roller-skating, soccer (spectator), and "junk" collecting. Susan is a vegetarian. She married Dennis Brown in 1977. Dennis is an interior design student at the University of Minnesota.

David Siegel graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1979. He is a Mechanical Engineer with Exxon and is currently located in Baton Rouge. David's special interests and hobbies include piano playing, canoeing, camping, biking, broomball, softball, hockey, fishing, reading and museums.

Jennifer Siegel is a student at the University of Minnesota in social, science. Jennifer enjoys biking, folk dancing, baking, cooking, theatre, art galleries and old movie stars. She married Benjamin Stiegler in July, 1980. Ben is working on his Masters Degree in Environmental Health. He works for International Graphics, as a software engineer.

Lisa Siegel is a marketing and management student at the University of Minnesota. Lisa works for her sister Susan at People's Clothing as a sales person. Her hobbies and interests include ceramics, baking and art galleries.

Palmer Siegel, the third son of Carl and Bess Siegel, was born in 1929. Palmer graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1950 from the School of Journalism. Palmer is in partnership with his brother-in-law Burton Rutman in the Lyndale Fruit and Garden Store in Minneapolis. This is a very popular spot and well known throughout the Twin City area. Palmer married Sandra Rutman in 1954. Sandy graduated in Medical Technology in 1954. She is interested in cooking, especially Cantonese. Sandy is president of the ORT

organization in her area. They have three children: Miriam, Michael and Evan.

Miriam Siegel is attending the University of Pennsylvania and is studying finance. Michael Siegel will be attending Duke in North Carolina in the fall. He plans to study physics and likes sports. Evan is a junior in high school, likes sports and politics and says that he is an active Anderson campaigner. Marvin is the fourth and youngest son of Bess and Carl Siegel. He is a computer analyst and lives in St. Johns Newfoundland. Marvin married Diane Jokela in 1962 and they have two children: Elizabeth and Corinne.

Marvin's wife, Diane, contributes the following information:

"His earliest memories are of the big house on Second Street and the parties his parents had; sitting around a table in the living room in the evening during the war, with members of the family; counting the rationing stamps from the days work in his father's store; 12 hour long car trips to Minneapolis (because of the 30 mph speed limit during the war) in a cigar-smoke laden atmosphere; summers spent at the cabin at Lake Esquagama where the Ostrovs also had a cabin. "

Diane continues about her husband, Marvin: "Marvin lived in Virginia until he left to attend the University of Minnesota from which he graduated in 1957. He then worked in Arkansas with a surveying team until he was drafted into the army in 1958. After several months in Alaska, he was discharged in 1960 and went back to Minneapolis where he worked for Franklin Manufacturing, Co. In September, 1962 he married Diane Jokela from Cloquet, Minnesota. Diane worked as a physical therapist until the birth of their first child, Elizabeth, in April 1965.

In April of 1967, Marvin was transferred by the Franklin Company to the Canadian plants in Galt and Guelph, Ontario to set up a computer installation. Diane and Marvin rented a house in the country by a lake and spent a lovely year and a half there. In October of 1968, Marvin was offered a position at the computer center of Memorial University in Newfoundland. A visit to an ocean beach while in St. John's to look the job over, sold him on the idea of living there and in November they purchased a camper van and drove to Newfoundland. Corinne Ann, their second child, was born to them in 1971."

At present, Marvin has a partnership in a data processing consulting firm; Diane works for Planned Parenthood. Elizabeth will be the 10th grade in the Fall and Corinne will be in the 4th grade. All think Newfoundland is great with its variety of landscape - wild ocean beaches, barrens, mountains, lakes and forests and its interesting history and culture. The family camped for years in their blue van and saw much of the island. Marv and Diane both feel that the unspoiled lakes and forests have a lot of the character of the Minnesota of 30 years ago.

The following are fishing stories contributed by Sam Siegel:

"Dad (Carl), Aunt Jennie and I were crappie fishing with small hooks in Bass Lake near our cabin at Lake Esquagama. Dad, as usual, complained he was snagged. Suddenly, the "snag" started to run. Dad hollered, "I've caught a Muskrat - then it broke water - a huge bass. No landing net, just a shallow plywood boat, much over loaded and only inches of draft. Dad finally had the fish to the side of the boat. "Rock", he yelled. Then he brought fish, lake, and all into the bottom of the boat. We nearly swamped, but he was the proud catcher of an 8 1/2 lb. large mouth bass.

It was a prize-winning trophy size, but Mom stuffed it instead with tomatoes and baked it. Better it should have been mounted because it was inedible. It tasted muddy."

"Fred and Ann's nephew from Minneapolis were fishing Lake Fourteen. They decided to move and Fred started the outboard. As he pulled the starter cord, the motor slipped from the boat ---he had failed to fasten it. Fred absolutely refused to lose that motor. Over the side went motor, Fred and all. He didn't let go until it hit muddy bottom. When he finally surfaced, sputtering and half drowned, he yelled, "Stan, row to me." Stanley, a neophyte fisherman and boater, didn't know how to row - he moved away instead of toward Fred. "Throw me a cushion", hollered Fred. It fell half way between Fred and the boat. Fortunately, Fred made it to the preserver and then to the boat.

Fred's fireman cohorts, who scuba dived and located it, rescued the motor. Fred overhauled it and it was as good as new.

Dad, Rolland, and Ben Walt and I were on the way home from fishing on Echo Lake. Dad had over indulged and was sleeping in the back seat, Ben was driving and noticed a trail of sparks flowing from under the back of the car. He quickly stopped. Grass on the side of the road was blazing and the underside of the car was burning. Ben had left the emergency brake on. "The car's on fire" Rolland, and I shouted to Dad. "Go away, I'm tired", he replied. We tried to drag him out forcibly, but he was like lead. Ben grabbed a wet gunny sack and crawled under the car to put out the flames. Rolland and I went to put out the brush fire. "To Hell with the woods, save the car, " screamed Ben. All fires were extinguished as Carl slumbered on. Carl to this day still doesn't recall what happened.

This story is entitled, Early Training. "The way the Siegel clan fished it was a miracle no one ever drowned. Over clothed, overloaded boats, disregard for weather, no life preservers and lots of booze. God forbid, if one of the youngsters would lose a fish, it was a major catastrophe. For years "catching" a fish, meant holding a line and handing it to one of the adults if we got a bite. I really wasn't allowed to "reel in my own" until into my teens and after my Bar Mitzvah. We served our apprenticeship as line holders and limit expanders. Despite all this, each of the Siegel boys developed a love for the outdoors and for fishing."

"The only shore landing I remember -- We always stayed on the lake dawn to dusk, never landing except to leave. Hurricane force winds and four foot waves and driving rain finally drove us onto an island on Lake Kabategama, a shallow, mean body of water. We moved inland for shelter from the wind and rain and tried to start a fire with wet wood and gasoline. After a modicum of success, we made a head count. Carl Siegel was missing. "Carl", we hollered -- no answer -- We sent out a search party -- There he was, oblivious to the storm" sitting in the back of the beached boat, fishing."

"Dutch Popelker, a cohort of Fred's and a customer of Dad's was always taken along on ice fishing trips. It wasn't his charming personality either. Dutch was five by five, five feet tall and five feet wide and all muscle. He could carry 200 pounds and could chisel a fishing hole in two feet of ice in minutes. All he needed for fuel was a bottle of "moon." One trip to Pelican was terrific. The five of us, Fred, Dad, Dutch, Palmer and I had close to a hundred pan-size crappies spread over the ice.

"Time to load up and go", called Dad. Dutch dumped the crappies into a sack, picked up the fishing gear and headed for the car. We walked over to see how the other fishermen were doing. It was very cold so we soon headed back, climbed into Dad's Plymouth and drove the 50 miles to Virginia.

When the time came for the ritual of dividing the fish, Dutch opened the trunk to retrieve them -- Nothing! He had loaded the fish and gear into the wrong Plymouth. That was not a crappie fishing trip soon forgotten!

**FRED SIEGEL**



Fred - W.W. I



Fred Siegel



Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary



Fred Engaged to Ann Sher



Irving & Pearl Favin, Ann and Fred, Janet & Carl Carlson at the Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary Celebration.



Fred's Meat Market

- VII. FRED b. 1895 m. Anne Sher d. 1902  
A. JANET b. 1928 m. Carl Carlson d.  
B. PEARL b. 1922 m. Irving Favin

Who was the fireman in Virginia for 30 years? Who drove the Chief's car? Who made Mulligan Stew once a year so that the fire department could sponsor a big feed? The person that was all of these things and more was Fred, the youngest child of Michel Labe and Pearl, born in 1895.

When Fred Siegel came to the United States it was during the holiday Christmas season. He went into the store that he thought was Carl's and saw whole pigs hanging on the hook. He knew he wasn't in the right place and quickly shut the door. Carl had to chase him down and assure him all was still kosher – it was just part of the business.

Fred remembers that he left Russia when he was 12 years old. His Father took him to the Volga River, put him on a ferry and said good-bye. He also recalls that one of the things that he did in Russia was to go with a driver and horse and cart to Vilna where he would peddle apples.

Fred served in World War I. He was gassed during the war and this affected his future health. Before becoming a fireman, Fred was a butcher. He also dressed deer and bought and sold cattle. He helped his brother Carl make Sauerkraut. It was a Virginia tradition and they made tons of it. Fred was also the family fix-it man, providing his family and nieces and nephews with toys, bikes, and skates.

Fred married Ann Sher and they had two children: Janet and Pearl.

Janet Siegel married Carl Carlson. Carl is a high school teacher in St. Paul. Janet works as a secretary. Janet likes sewing and reading. Janet was born in 1928.

Janet and Carl had four children: John, Ricky (deceased), Dale, and Craig.

John Carlson is married to Sook, a girl he met while serving in the Army. Soak is from Korea. John works for Cargill in traffic management. He is very athletic, playing basketball and baseball in high school and winning some awards for his athletics.

Dale Carlson is attending the University of Minnesota and working part time.

Craig Carlson, has been attending junior college and is now planning to switch to vocational school.

Pearl Siegel was born in 1922 and married Irving Favin. They live in Silver Springs, Maryland. Pearl is a homemaker and a grandmother. She also does volunteer work in a local hospital. Pearl and Irv have an apartment at the beach where they enjoy boating and fishing.

When Irv and Pearl Favin came to Virginia a few months after they were married (November, 1944), Irv gained 15 pounds in two weeks because the cooking and baking were so good and they were so royally entertained. Irv didn't want to hurt anyone's feelings and he didn't refuse anything. When they left for home his army blouse couldn't be buttoned. Needless to say, everyone made a good impression on him!

Pearl and Irv Favin have three children: Michael, Robert and Martin.

Michael Favin is married to Nancy Burnham, He does research and writing on health in developing countries and enjoys sports, classical music and gardening.

Robert Favin is a locksmith and his wife is a homemaker. They have two children: and Katie.

Marty Favin is an auditor for Federal Election Commission. His hobbies are traveling, tennis, bicycling and hats.

Janet Carlson has some memories to share: She remembers "Fishing trips and the excitement of waiting to see who caught the biggest and most. I only went when all the men or boys were asked first, except for Aunt Jennie. Dad (Fred Siegel) was always the navigator of the boat, the maintenance chief to keep all equipment in top shape and often was the champ fisherman. When all the men went fishing on Sundays, we (the women) often went to Lake Esquagama for the day - providing Aunt Pearl would drive. She was the only woman I recall that could drive. We had good times out there even with that old cook stove and water from the pump -- always got poison ivy after."

"I remember the pickle factory in the basement - sauerkraut time - deer dressing time - duck cleaning time - chicken cleaning time. Every thing took place at the "Industrial Center" of the Fred Siegel's basement. The then lady of the house would complain 'I was left with all the mess!' "

"I remember the great Hopalong Cassidy Spectaculars that Dad and I used to go to at the Granada Theater. He got in free and I went for ten cents."

"I remember I spent a lot of time at Carl Siegel's house. They had neat toys. It seemed like every time I touched one it broke and Aunt Bess would give me a dirty look. Palmer and I would dry hazel nuts on the attic roof of that wonderful old second street house of theirs. There were so many great places to hide in that house."

A few fishing stories from another contributor: "Brothers Fred and Carl were fishing one wintry evening, and it started to snow. Fred had a large Northern on his line and was pulling it toward the boat. When the fish was a few feet from the boat, a large Muskie swallowed the Northern and Fred was so shocked at seeing the Muskie that he let go of the rod and the Muskie took the fish, the rod and the reel."

"I have seen many fights on television, but the roughest fights I have ever seen were between fisherman Carl and Fred. When we would leave the dock, Fred would say that the fish were biting over there. Carl would say that the fish were biting at the opposite end of the lake. And they would really argue and be angry. But, I found out later that they only sounded angry; besides being brothers, Carl and Fred were the best of friends."

## **OTHER KNOWN AND/OR MISSING RELATIVES OF MICHEL LABE SEGAL AND PEARL DORF**

### ***The original and earliest CHAIM SEGAL***

He is the oldest relative whose name we know and the father of Michel Labe, Mases Schmolenger, Ida and another daughter.

MICHEL LABE m. Pearl Dorf

Chya Rachel

Chaim

Chona

Jennie

Joseph

Fruma

Carl

Fred

MASES SCHMOLENGER

IDA m. Joseph Williams

Charles

Samuel

Libba

Louis

Irving

Sol

ANOTHER DAUGHTER (unknown name) m. Mr. Frank

### ***MOTHER AND FATHER DORF***

We do not know their names but their children are:

PEARL m. Michel Labe Segal

eight children (Refer to the list above.)

CHYA SHANA m, Benjamin Berman

Yenta

Shacka (Sara)

Yankel m. Pearl Deletsky

Alec m. Jennie Arnovich

Clarence

Beatrice (deceased)

Sanford m. Janelle (div) m. Sande Michelle

ANOTHER DAUGHTER (unknown name) m. Mr. Schuster (changed name to Siegel)

Joe m. Rose Williams

Irving m. Laura

Al m. Belle

Fannie m. William Israel

Sid

David

Pearl Dorf had a number of relatives who came to the United States. One sister married a Mr. Schuster. The word schuster means shoemaker. The Schuster family changed their name to Siegel. The family originally lived

in Denver and later moved to Detroit. The children are Joe, Al, Irving and Fannie.

Joe Siegel married Rose Williams, a cousin. Joe is deceased. Rose lives in California.

Al Siegel married Belle and they lived in Detroit. Al is deceased.

Belle lives in Florida.

Irving was married to Laura. They lived in Detroit. Irving is deceased. Laura is remarried. Her last name is now Sheldon.

Fannie was married to William Israel. There were two sons of the Israel family that we are aware of: Sidney and David. Sidney is President of the Great Lakes Hotel Supply Company and lives in Michigan.

Pearl had a sister, Chya Shana Dorf, who married Benjamin Berman. Benjamin Berman was a mason, laying bricks and building house foundations. His wife, Chya, bought eggs in the country and sold them at the market in a nearby town. She sometimes made meals for occasional travelers.

Chya Shana Dorf and Benjamin Berman had four children: two daughters, named Yenta and Shacka or Sara, and two sons, Yankel and Alec. The two girls stayed in Europe. Yankel Berman married Pearl Deletsky, a cousin and they stayed in Europe. Alec Berman was the only member of his family to immigrate to the United States. His cousin, Carl Siegel, brought him to this country.

After Alec Berman came to Minnesota, he became a business partner with Fred Siegel. He learned how to buy cattle from Fred's brother Carl. Fred Siegel and Alec Berman established their own meat market in a place they rented from Fred's sister, Jennie Ostrov. At that time, Jennie had a little tavern and a small confectionary store on 5th Street in Virginia.

World War I came along and Fred and Alec were drafted into the army.

Alec became a cook. Fred was in the infantry. They both received their citizenship (without any classes) for the time that they served in the army. Fred fought in France and Germany. Alec cooked in France and Germany. After the war, they again started up in the meat business. Apparently, Carl had the market cornered, so Fred became a fireman and Alec worked as an independent cattle buyer. Alec was a very strong man all of his life.

Alec Berman was married to Jennie Arnovich. Their children were Clarence, who lives in California, Beatrice, who is deceased, and Sanford who also lives in California.

Sanford Berman is married to Janelle and they have a daughter, Michelle. Jennifer is now eleven years old. The family lives in San Diego, California. Sanford has a PhD in Semantics. He is a hypnotist and semanticist. His stage name is Michael Dean. He has been doing a very successful nightclub hypnotist act for 15 years at Fun World in San Diego. He began his career as a singing disc jockey in Minnesota and still does some singing. Besides his nightclub act, Sanford lectures on communication and success motivation, does educational cassettes and is very involved in one of his hobbies, The Boxing Club of America, Inc.

Michel Labe had a brother, Mases Schmolenker. There is some confusion about his last name and it may have been different than his brother's last name. However, Mases was supposed to be over six feet tall, very

powerful, very religious, and well educated. He had a large house in which five or six families would get together each Saturday for minyan.

Michel Labe had a sister who settled in Chicago. She married a man whose last name was Frank. Mr. Frank was a shochet (a person that ritually slaughters animals according to Jewish law).

Michel Labe had another sister, Ida, who came to the United States.

Ida married Joseph Williams. Ida and Joseph had six children: Charles, Samuel, Libba, Louis, Irving and Sol.

Charles, Irving, and Sol Williams settled in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Louis Williams was last known to be living in Chicago, Illinois.

He was married and had three children, Ruth, Ernest and Howard. Ruth was married to Irving Bernstein. They had one son. Dr. Ernest Williams was last known to be living in Chicago. He was married and had three children. Howard Williams was married. His wife was named Rachel. Samuel Williams, son of Ida and Joseph, was married and lived in Chicago. He had two children, Rose and Emil.

Rose was first married to a policeman, Mr. Tully. After his death, she married Joe Siegel and now lives in California. Joe Siegel is deceased. Rose has one daughter, Patricia Tully Cohen who lives in California.

Emil is not married.

Libba Williams, daughter of Ida and Joseph Williams, married Gerson Frank, a shochet. This Mr. Frank may well have been a relative of the Mr. Frank who married her Aunt. Libba and Gerson Frank had six children: Etta, Jacob, Sol and Morris (twins), Esther and Dorothy.

Etta has one son, Shmuel Meyer.

Jacob has one daughter, Syril Aline.

Sol has one daughter, Betty Frances.

Hopefully, someone will come forth with more information about this part of the family. (*Dianne Siegel*)

Sent to me by a very distant cousin and added 2016:

Her great grandparents were Libba and Gerson Frank. Libba's maiden name was Williams, and her mother was Ida Siegel, the sister of Mikhel Leyb Siegel. My informant is Rivkie Seligson of South Bend, Indiana. Her mother is Ahuva Wainhaus of Chicago. Her Mother is Betty Goldman of Chicago, and her mother is Esther Frank of Israel. Her husband was Sol Frank, one of the twins both to Gerson and Libba Frank in Benton Harbor, MI. Sol Frank married Esther Kwalwasser, and they had two daughters, Betty and Vivian.

# Photo Galleries from in the original book

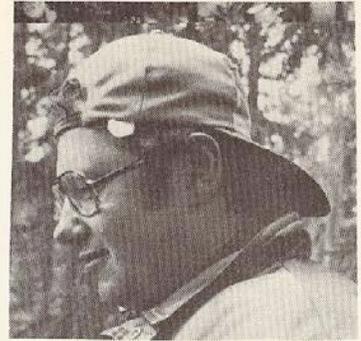




FAIVEL, TANIA + MINNA CHAET



ROSE SIEGEL



LEIGHTON SIEGEL



SAM SIEGEL



MARTY FAVIN



CAROLINE MITTLER



CHIAM



JANE SIEGEL



CARL - GUEST  
COUSIN JOE SIEGEL  
PAUL OSTROV



ISADORE SIEGEL + ?



CARL



CARL



SHELDON + PEARL SIEGEL



JANET + SAM



ROLLAND + SHERM  
WALT



BESS-LINDA-CARL

JANELLE  
MICHELLE  
SANDY BERMAN



MIKE FAVIN



JONATHAN-ANDREA-BOB-JULIANNE KARSH



NANCY-BETH-DENNIS



CHARLES-MARGE-SOPHIE-PAUL OSTROY



ALLISON & PHIL BENNET



KAPHAEL + BETTY SUSNOVITZ



LEIGHAN-ANDREA-ROSE-CLARENCE SIEGEL



ANN SIEGEL  
PEARL,  
IRU &  
MARY  
FAVIN



DIANE-MARVIN-CORINNE-ELIZABETH SIEGEL



BOB-PAMELA-JUDY-GAYL MARANS



HELEN WALT



PAM CHODUN



PALMER SIEGEL



JEFFREY + BRENDA STENGER



CLARENCE SIEGEL  
WON FIRST PRIZE  
IN A BABY CONTEST



DAVID + IDALLAH  
WRIA



NANCY + LINIA SIEGEL



ELIZABETH  
GOSTIN



SCOTT CHODUN



PEARL BENNET  
←



JENNIE + DAVID SIEGEL



SUSAN + LISA SIEGEL



ELLIOT SIEGEL



JEAN + CHARLIE OSTROV





THE WALT FAMILY



OSTROV'S + BARD'S



SALLY-CAROL-RAFAEL  
SUSNOWITZ



MORE WALTs - EDERS, too



SIEGEL + BENNET + WEISS



ROSE BENNET,  
IDA SIEGEL + PEARL WEISS



PHIL + ROSE BENNET



SAM + PAUL BENNET



HELEN-PEARL-ROSA  
WALT



RAISEL + NOAH FAZOL - CHILDREN + GRANDCHILDREN



KOBIN-SHARON-ALLISON-MARLENE  
WITH GRANDMOTHER IDA



PEARL CHIARI



BESSIE-RAISEL-RAFAEL-NOAH-RAQUEL



CHIAM + ?



BESSIE SIEGEL  
+ HER BOYS



CHIAM-PIA + THEIR DESCENDANTS AT THEIR FIFTIETH WEDDING



NANCY & MIKE FAVIN



BETTY & ART  
SUSNOWITZ



ANN & AL MARANS  
PIA MILAULTZ SIEGEL



PAUL & LIL SIEGEL



SANDRA & PALMER SIEGEL



CAROLINE SIEGEL WEDDING



ISADORE & SARAH  
SIEGEL



CAROLE & FRANK BUONAGURIO



JENNIE & BEN STIEGLER



KAREN & DAVID BERNARD



DENNIS & MYRA GORDON & FAMILY



ROLAND WALT FAMILY

SALLY SUSNOWITZ



BARBARA WALT



NANCY SIEGEL



DALLAH LURIA



PHYLLIS SIEGEL



WADE CARLSON



SHELDON SIEGEL



CRAIG CARLSONS

ANDREA SIEGEL



JANET CARLSON



MARVIN SIEGEL



CAROLINE SIEGEL

CAROL SUSNOWITZ

BARBARA WALT



CHARLES OSTROV



SHAWN STEIGER



NANCY WALT



MARTY FAYIN



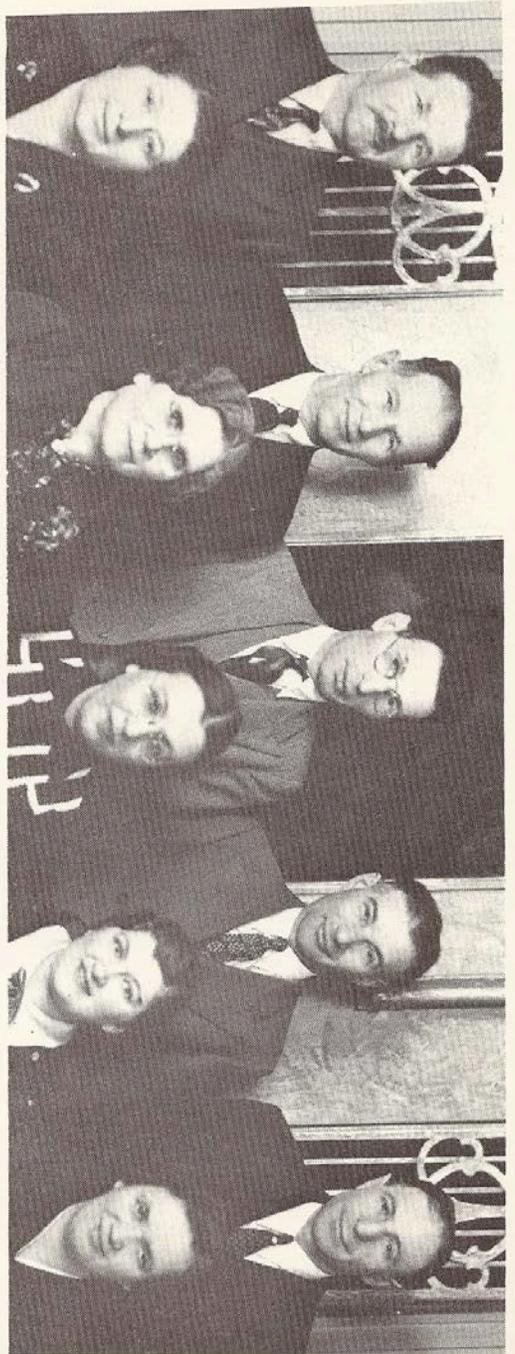
TANIA CHAET



CHERYL EDER



KAY RUTH SIEGEL



back row: Chaim,  
Chona, Joseph,  
Carl, Fred.  
front row:  
Jennie, Ida,  
Sarah, Bessie,  
Ann.  
The brothers  
with their  
wives and  
sister  
Jennie.  
Pia was  
unable  
to come.



back: Lisa, Jennie Siegel, Dennis Brown, Susan, David, Palmer, Sandra, Evan, Michael, Rose, Dianne,  
Leighton Siegel. David Ostrov. front row: Sam, Ione, Carl and Bessie Siegel. Sharon, Marge, Charles,  
Sophie and Paul Ostrov. seated on floor: Jessica Brown, Pam, Jeffrey Siegel, Dan Ostrov, Leslie Siegel.  
Taken at Sharon Ostrov's Bat Mitzvah.



FRUMA-



NANCY



ROTH WALT - ANNE SIEGEL - HELEN WALT



PAUL OSTROU



LINDA SIEGEL



ALEX  
FRED CARL



JOHN SIEGEL



IRVING SIEGEL



BESS CARL - July 13-1980



SHELDON SIEGEL



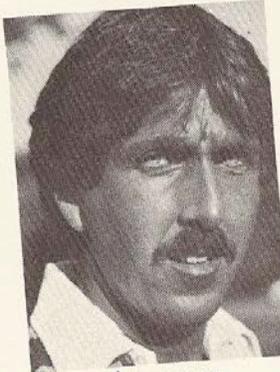
BELLE KAL SIEGEL - ANNE MANSANS



CLARENCE - JOHN SIEGEL



PALMER SIEGEL



STAN CHODUN



SHERMAN WALT



ANN - JENNIFER - FRED SIEGEL 7/13/80

## **EPILOGUE**

This story doesn't end here; in fact it has just begun. To find out what happened next, just read what is written on the following pages. Of course they are empty now. You need to fill them in yourself, as do your children, and your children's children, and their children after that. Probably you will need more paper -----

## **APPENDIX A:**

### **The 1990 update to the original 1980 family history**

#### ***A few new thoughts on origins and meaning of the name "SIEGEL":***

1) From Exodus XIX

"Now therefore, if ye will harken unto my voice ye shall be mine own treasure from among all peoples". (Treasure in Hebrew is Segullah)

2) Segol, is name of the vowel under a Hebrew letter •• which has the sound of eh, as in the e of "hello." It means charm, talisman, or remedy. In Aramaic - a bunch of segulah is a bunch of grapes.

3) There is the original thought that SEGAL in its many English spellings is an acronym meaning assistant to the Levites.

#### ***FAMILY OF CHYA RACHEL***

I am very pleased to report that through the diligent work of our relative Philip Bennett, we have regained contact with Tania Chaet in Vilna, U.S.S.R. - the only remaining relative in Russia. Here are some excerpts from Philip's letter written to all of you about this visit:

"In 1988 I led a tour to the Soviet Union. When it became clear that Vilnius (many know it as Vilna) was on our itinerary, I remembered that the Siegel family had a member living there. The Siegel Family Reunion book led me to call Dianne Siegel who suggested that I get in touch with Betty Susnowitz, which I did.

Within minutes of arriving at our hotel in Vilnius, I got Tania's phone number and called. Her father, Faviel answered and while I speak no Yiddish and at that time hardly any Russian, he and I managed to communicate some. A few hours later, I spoke with Tania herself and thus began an interesting and at times challenging relationship with our only living relative in the "Old Country."

My wife and I met with Tania a number of times during that visit. She is just over forty, unmarried, in relatively good health and lives a relatively secure life financially. She is a professional artist and sells enough to live by her art. She and her father have a large apartment, especially by Soviet standards - three good size rooms plus a kitchen. It is filled with books---which is very typical---and Tania's art work. She does a lot of her work at home, though she does have studio space at the Artists Union Hall. She has given a number of shows in major cities. She has traveled to Poland, but never to the "West." She would like to do so, but it is difficult to leave her father who is not in the best of health. Her father, Faviel, used to be a professional photographer.

All this was in July of 1988. As luck would have it, I was able to return to Vilnius that September. During this visit, Tania and I, together with an elder named Reuben, traveled to the village of our ancestors, in Kavarsk. Tania had never been there, though she knew of it. Reuben had been a friend of Betty Susnowitz' before Betty had left for the States. He knew our family well, and was able to point out the buildings where they had lived. He showed us the building that had once been the synagogue --it is now a warehouse-- and we walked on what had been the Jewish cemetery where my great grandfather Michel Labe is buried. All of the stones had been destroyed in the '50s and it is now a cow pasture. According to Reuben and Tania, at the start of the war, there were over 500 Jews in this village. At the end, there were five.

Tania shared tales that she had heard from her Mother. One is that our family members were not killed by Nazis but by Lithuanian fascists and that Tania's mother was able to identify them after the war and that they were punished.

During this visit with Tania, we developed something of a business contract; I agreed to try to sell her art work in the States with the understanding that I would use the money to buy her a new TV and VCR. I did sell one to the art museum at Cornell University, where they were particularly impressed with her technique, one to a private art collector and one to a Siegel family member, at this writing.

My most recent visit with Tania was this past summer, when my wife and I lived for two months in Moscow. We bought the TV for Tania in Berlin. It cost lots more than anticipated and then we had to have it shipped to Moscow, still more money. In addition, we brought art supplies for her and medicine for her father and obviously used all the money that we raised from the sale of the art plus the money that was so generously contributed by many of the Siegel Family. Still, Tania wanted more. She wanted a VCR and shoes. Although we had no funds, we did eventually buy those items for her.

And now? We haven't heard from her since we left. We've written a couple of times and I will be back in Vilnius in May of this year. The saga will continue one way or another. If anyone is interested in seeing slides of her prints with the thought of buying them, please get in touch."

You can read more more about Philip Bennett under Chona's Family.

Betty Susnowitz is living in San Francisco. She is very interested in our more recent project of trying to trace Pearl Dorfs side of the family. More about that later.

## **CHAIM'S FAMILY**

I suppose we should start with the sad news in this branch of the family and that was the sudden and tragic loss of Sherman Walt. He died as a result of being struck by a car in Chestnut Hill, Mass. He was 66 years old. His wife, Phyllis, was also hit, and although she had many injuries, she survived. I'd like to share some excerpts with you from some of the many news items that were written about Sherman after this tragic accident:

### ***New York Times 10/28/89***

"Mr. Walt was born in Virginia, Minn., and studied at the University of Minnesota and the Curtis Institute in Philadelphia. In 1946, he joined the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and became its principal bassoonist two years later. he joined the Boston Symphony in 1953 and remained with the orchestra until his retirement last Spring. During much of his career, which began with the Chicago Symphony in 1946, Mr. Walt was considered the greatest of American bassoonists."

### ***Boston Globe***

"When Mr. Walt was a teenager, the conductor Dmitri Mitropoulos told the youth's parents: "This boy has to play the bassoon." Mitropoulos sent Mr. Walt an allowance every month while he was a student at the Curtis Institute in Philadelphia. Years later, after Mitropoulos conducted a concert with Mr. Walt as principal bassoon, Mr. Walt took the conductor to lunch and offered him a partial reimbursement. Mitropoulos tore up the check, saying, "The way you played just now paid me back in full."

## **BSO, the Quarterly Newsletter of the Boston Symphony Orchestra/Spring 1989.**

"Most major orchestral musicians have a way of taking on the characteristics of their instruments. This was certainly true of Sherman Walt. The bassoon is a tall and noble-looking instrument and Walt was both; the bassoon can be obstreperous and make rude noises and Walt certainly had a robust sense of humor. But Walt's real genius, and what made him the most admired bassoon-player in the world, was how much he could make his instrument sound like him. Walt took this unwieldy contraption of wood, metal, cork and reed and made it sound human.

For all the fierceness of his dedication to quality, he was the gentlest of men, a gentleman, and he made the bassoon sigh with the whole range of human feeling. He was modest and unassuming, and one of the reasons people looked up to him is that he never asked them to.

In his retirement from the BSO, Walt had begun to teach again. He loved his house in the country, near Tanglewood; he loved to rev up his HarleyDavidson motorcycle for a long trip; he loved antique cars and enjoyed cooking and skiing; he had a youthful twinkle in his eye and he loved to play with his eight grandchildren." Appreciation by Richard Dyer, Boston Globe.

"Written by Sherman upon his retirement - "You, the audience, have been the object of my career, and I have loved doing what I do best, playing the bassoon for you. The Boston Symphony Orchestra family has given me the opportunity to do this, and I want to thank every member of the family. It has been a wonderful life, and I cherish each of the years I have spent with you."

All of us who knew Sherman Walt will miss him, most especially his beloved family! Our condolences to them all.

On to the updates, might as well do mine first:

Rose Siegel (widow of Clarence Siegel) married Leon Bernstein in January of 1986 and they spend their winters in West Palm Beach and their summers in Philadelphia, Leon's home.

From Andrea (daughter of Clarence and Rose Siegel Bernstein) and Rob Karsh in Sacramento: Andrea is an oncology social worker, Rob is a child psychiatrist. He is enjoying fishing in his new boat. Julie is 20 and attends University of California at San Diego and Jonathan is finishing high school this year. Jonathan was chosen as a host for the award-winning, teen-produced television program "Scratch." He also keeps himself busy as a reporter for high school news show on CABLE T.V., a DJ in a student station broadcast all over Sacramento and a percussionist with the Sacramento Youth Symphony.

Our Siegel family is about in the same place. I am still a Jewish Communal Worker for the St. Paul Jewish Community Center and Director of Services Seniors; Leighton (son of Clarence and Rose Siegel Bernstein) is still practicing medicine, specifically ENT and doing computer programming on the side. I am also on the Board of the Jewish Historical Society of the Upper Midwest and last year helped organize a genealogy workshop where I displayed the Siegel Family Book. Pam, our daughter and one of our twins, is a senior at University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, majoring in Industrial Engineering. Lesli, our daughter and the other twin, is a senior at Northwestern University, majoring in Human Resources and Jeff is a senior in High School anticipating his college years with trepidation and eagerness.

Carolyn (daughter of Clarence and Rose Siegel Bernstein) and her husband Elliott Mittler live in Woodland Hills, CA. Carolyn has a Master's degree in nuclear medicine and works in her field. Elliott has a PhD in Social Biology. he teaches and is also an appraiser of art and a collector of art. Carolyn is an avid horsewoman, riding and competing in horse shows on a regular basis and in

1987 was a top ranking amateur in her division.

Rolland ( son of Ben and Pearl Walt) and Ada Walt's family: David, their son, has a doctorate in Pharmacology and is Chairman of the Chemistry Department at Tuft's University. His wife, Michele, is a CPA and is chief financial officer at Bain Ventures. Judy, their daughter, is a graphic art sales representative and her husband, Glenn is employed at General Motors. Gary Walt, another son, is an attorney specializing in Corporate Law. His wife, Debbie, is a manager of an art studio. Rolland has retired and is currently engaged in a new career, buying and selling businesses.

Bob Marans, (son of Ann Siegel and Albert Marans) and Judy Marans live in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Bob is a professor at the University of Michigan. His field is urban planning. Judy is an elementary school teacher. They hosted a wonderful brunch for my family and invited all of the Siegel relatives when we were there this Fall. Their daughter, Gayl is married to Richard Monto. Gayl and Richard have been living in Boston where Richard attends Law School. His field is International Law. They will be moving to Chicago after Law School. Their other daughter, Pam will be getting married this summer. Her intended is a medical student. Pam is also a teacher, employed in a private Jewish school in Chicago. Pam graduated from the University of Wisconsin at Madison and did her practice teaching in Australia.

Ann Marans lives in Michigan. She is feeling well and still plays a mean game of bridge. She is very proud of her family and is looking forward to a wedding this summer of her granddaughter, Pam.

A wonderful, long letter from Myra Guidon (daughter of Helen Eder Lattin and Sam Eder). She is living in Hazel Crest, IL. She is a freelance writer and has taught English at a private school affiliated with the University of Chicago. This year she is taking a leave of absence from teaching to write full time. I really liked your open letter to your daughter. Indeed, this is a new generation, and they are charged with making this earth a "cleaner, happier and safer place". That was a quote from Myra, and it goes for all of our kids, so many of whom are the same generation. Her son, Josh is in High School. Daughter, Sarah, has been attending a boarding school in Faribault, MN and her daughter, Jessica, is attending Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota. - Back to those Minnesota roots! Hey, Myra, you didn't tell us the girls were in Minnesota. Are they willing to give us a call or else send phone numbers! And do call when you are in town!

Cheryl Chodun (daughter of Helen Eder Lattin and Sam Eder) is no longer the radio news reporter with WWJ . She has moved up in the world to be a daily news reporter on Channel 7 (ABC), the top news station in Detroit. Be sure and watch her newscast when in Detroit. Cheryl is married to Stan Chodun and they have two children, Pam, 18 and Scott 17 years of age.

That Chaim's branch is a big one!

### **CHONA'S FAMILY**

Philip Bennett (son of Rose and Sam Bennett) works for the Center for Religion, Ethics and Social Policy at Cornell University working in the area of citizen diplomacy with the Soviet Union, leading tours, etc. He also is the Male Sexuality Educator for the Health Center at Cornell University and he teaches Reevaluation Counseling sometimes called Co-Counseling. His daughter, Allison, was born in 1970 and attends the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. His wife as of September, 1988 is Wendy Kohli who is a professor at SUNY-Binghamton. She teaches and consults and is a published scholar. her field is critical pedagogy.

According to Pearl Bennett Chiari (daughter of Rose and Sam Bennett), her mother Rose Siegel

Bennett, broke her hip last March (1988), but is still living in her own home with assistance. Pearl is a French teacher in Miami Lakes, Florida. She has won numerous awards such as the 1986-87 Florida's French teacher of the year. She is currently the President of Foreign Language Teachers of Florida.

Joan and Burt Weiss (son of Pearl and Ed Weiss) of North Miami Beach, Fl sent some information about their children. Daughter Ellen is married to Tom Dodson. Tom is an oral surgeon and Ellen, who is a Harvard graduate, is in the marketing end of hospital administration. They live in a wonderful old Victorian brownstone in San Francisco and have an infant son, Jonathan. Son Steven is the chairman of Pathology at two hospitals in Coral Springs, Fl and his wife Lori is a medical technologist for Coulter Electronics marketing Division. They have two small children. Their youngest son, David is still in college. Burt is the Vice President of GBD Data Systems and Joan teaches microwave cooking occasionally and paints and they all claim to be dedicated downhill snow skiers, but I can't imagine where they find the snow in Florida. They all love music.

Paul and Lillian Siegel still live in Cleveland, Ohio. They have three great grandchildren - Caroline Delciappo, Michael Delciappo and Anna Benade. Paul is now retired. Lillian said that if anyone is interested in corresponding with her, she would love to hear from you and will answer all letters.

### ***JENNIE'S FAMILY***

Sophie Ostrov (widow of Paul Ostrov) lives in North Miami Beach. We see her in the summer when she comes to Minnesota to visit.

Margie and Charley Ostrov ( son of Sophie and Paul Ostrov) are busy anticipating their son David's wedding to a lovely girl, Susie Bernson, from Chicago. The wedding will take place this summer. David is working and in business school and Susie works in Development at the Illinois Institute of Technology. Sheri is a recent graduate from Washington University, and is working as an assistant director for Bnai Brith Youth in the Chicago area. Danny is currently in England where he is spending part of his Junior year abroad. When in the States in attends Boston University in Boston. Charley upholds the Siegel tradition of fishing as much of the summer as he can arrange. Occasionally Leighton joins him at this endeavor. Got to keep up the traditions.

### **JOSEPH'S FAMILY**

We lost our tallest member of the Siegel family this year, Harold Siegel, who died of Lou Gehrig's disease. His wife, Margot, says in a recently published article that she is giving up her 40 year career as journalist and publicist, but I hope not. She writes wonderfully. Currently she is involved in the real estate business that was Harold's business before he died.

### ***FRUMA HAD NO DESCENDENTS***

### ***CARL'S FAMILY***

Bess (widow of Carl Siegel) still lives independently in an apartment in Minneapolis. One of Carl's grandchildren, wrote an article about her Zada, Carl Siegel. I'd like to share a paragraph:

"The greatest lesson Zada's life gives us is his sense of comfort and pride in what he accomplished. He knew what was important and what his responsibilities were, and he did them, without fuss. He was a loving and helpful husband and father and grandfather and brother and uncle and cousin and friend. His role as a family man was paramount to him."

Sandy Siegel (widow of Palmer) is working in the graduate school administration office at the

University of Minnesota. She works with prospective students. Her daughter Miriam and her son-in-law Larry Stein live in Deerfield, IL and both are tax attorneys. Michael Siegel is doing a post-doctorate at Cal Tech in applied mathematics. Evan was married this winter to Ruth Ann Vogelmann. They are living in Stamford, CT where Evan is a painting contractor for exteriors and Ruth Ann is a graphic designer.

Sam (son of Carl and Bess Siegel) and Ione Siegel live in Minneapolis. Their daughter Susan Berns is a consultant in the garment industry and still does some garment design along with taking care of baby Joseph Carl. Her husband Dale does custom interiors. Daughter Jennifer and her husband, Thatcher Root, live in Madison, WI where Thatcher is an Assistant Professor of Chemical Engineering. Son David lives in Boston where he works for Stone and Webster, a company that deals with artificial intelligence. Daughter Lisa lives in Minneapolis and does property management.

Marvin and Diane Siegel live in Newfoundland. Corrine attends the University in Newfoundland. Daughter Elizabeth has moved to a suburb of Toronto where she is working in a firm that edits childrens' books.

Also heard from Linda Siegel Brown (daughter of Sheldon and Priscilla Siegel). She is married to Robert and they have two children, Mark age 13 and David age 10. They recently celebrated Mark's Bar Mitzvah.

Beth Schneider, daughter of Nancy (daughter of Sheldon and Priscilla Siegel) and Dennis, is attending college in California.

## ***FRED'S FAMILY***

Heard from Pearl (daughter of Fred and Ann Siegel) and Irv Favin. Irv has retired and they are looking forward to taking it easy, traveling a little and enjoying the grandchildren. Pearl's Mom, Ann Siegel, lives in a nursing home in St. Paul. Ann and Bess Siegel, wife of Carl, are the two oldest living Minnesota Siegels by marriage, one in Chaim's branch and one in Fred's branch.

I heard from Mike and Nancy Favin (son of Pearl and Irv): Mike works for Manoff International a small consulting firm that specializes in health and nutrition education in developing countries. Nancy is a part time special education resource teacher.

## ***OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS***

This next section is dedicated to the responses from that branch of the family that is related through Pearl Dorf (wife of Michel Labe Siegel). As most of you know, if you read any of the previous correspondence, another relative by the name of Mark Gordon, Washington, D.C. has been diligently working on the Dorf family tree. I hope that before long we will be able to share with you what is known. There is a great deal of information, but neither he nor I are sure how it fits together. Some of you may hear from him, and if so please add any information that you might have.

The real puzzle is are we correct about who Pearl Dorfs sisters and brothers were and therefore are we correct about who the cousins are. We are fairly confident that Pearl Dorfs sister was Rachel Dorf who married Stanley Shuster Siegel; another sister was Chya Shana Dorf who married Benjamin Berman; two or three brothers, named Moishe Dorf who married Raisa Gordon and this brother, name unknown, whose daughter was Blanche Chessin. But we aren't certain how the other Minnesota Dorfs fit, such as Massey Dorf who is supposed to be the father of Yitzhak, John (Yesea) and Karpel. Anyone shed any light on these relationships?

From an article in the San Diego Union newspaper dated October 14, 1989 about Dr. Michael Dean, otherwise known as Sanford 1. Berman (son of Alec and Jennie Berman): After 26 years, Dr. Michael Dean, hypnotist, is retiring and returning to his life as Sanford 1. Berman, PhD. His specialty is general semantics. He has taught classes in general semantics, effective communication and public speaking. While Dr. Dean's audiences waited for the opportunity to embarrass themselves in front of numerous friends and strangers, they were usually treated to a generous sample of Dr. Berman's theories on those subjects. His future plans include research and writing. He has bought a townhouse in Las Vegas and plans to split his time between there and LaJolla. Says Sandy "I want to be remembered as someone who wanted to help people and never charge a penny," "I have helped thousands of people free of charge, and I'm very emotional about that. My job is helping people help themselves and that's what I do."

From Irving Siegel's daughters:

(Just to clarify things, or perhaps to muddy the waters, Pearl Dorf was Irving Siegel's aunt).

Sheryl Lynn is married to Steve Gellman and they have two children, Mneesha and Jessie. They live in Arcata, CA. Sheryl relates that when her father, Irving left Colorado, he came to Minnesota and stayed with relatives. (which could have been anyone of our Siegel families)

Esther Siegel is married to Spencer J. Brewer, III and they have a son Dorian. Esther says that she is a horseback riding instructor, substance abuse counselor for troubled youth and has an M.A. in counseling. Her husband, Spencer, is a piano tuner and technician and a noted New Age recording artist with four albums. They live in Redwood Valley, CA .. She says that Rose Siegel is living in Walnut Creek, CA. I haven't an address for her, but I bet she could help with our quest to put together the Dorfs.

Diane Siegel is divorced from Stephen Peter. Diane lives in Minneapolis and practices medicine. Stephen is from Saarland, W. Germany. He is completing a PhD in political science. Diane was a nurse before becoming a doctor. For three years she and her husband lived and worked on the Navajo Reservation. Thanks to Diane for supplying us with some names we didn't have before - Rachel (died 1912) and Samuel Siegel (died 1927). This would be the parents of Al, Joe, Fan and Irving. He is the supposed Mr. Schuster. Hopefully, Diane will be able to track down how the name got changed to Siegel. Be sure and share!! (corrected 2016)

Janet Paula Siegel is married to Philip Wade Hunt. They live in Galveston, TX. Janet is a social worker/interpreter for the deaf. Philip is in his second year of medical school and plans to specialize in family medicine.

Harriet and Sydney Israel (son of Fanny) lived in W. Bloomfield, MI. They have three children, Marc, Daniel and Bruce. Daniel is married to Cyndi. Sydney died and Harriet relocated to Naples, Florida. (Corrected 2016)

Well, that's it folks! Hope you enjoyed catching up. I'd love to hear from you.

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