Shanghai Memory

An Educational Experience at the World’s Fair of Money

16 August 2013

Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center
Skokie, Illinois

Amended-1
Your Schedule for the evening

10:00 Museum opens: all are welcome to tour on their own
10:30 Refreshments, Table Exhibit Viewing, Meet & Greet
11:00 Meet at your assigned tables and be warm to each other
11:15 Introduction to Guests & Agenda Announcements
11:25 Keynote Speaker: Dr. Manli Ho
   Daughter of Dr. Feng Shan Ho
12:15 Participation: Manli will answer your valuable questions
12:30 Lunch Buffet Begins
1:15 We knew it! Manli is eager to continue a dialogue of questions! Manli will also facilitate questions and comments on behalf our honored guests.
2:00 Event Ends
   Museum open for tours the remainder of the day for those staying.
5:00 Museum closes

Thank You: Key Project & Event Partners

Generous Event Sponsors

ANONYMOUS SPONSORSHIP FROM CHINA
NORTH SHORE CHINESE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
ILLINOIS HOLOCAUST MUSEUM & EDUCATION CENTER
WEI WEI
This journey of the Shanghai Ghetto began by chance at a lunch on December 7, 2010 at the Shanghai Mint with one of their Directors, Mr. Zhang Yuequn and one of my great friends, Drew Tucci. We were there to talk about panda bear coins and out of nowhere, Mr. Zhang said, “we are going to make a coin about the Shanghai Ghetto...I have an interest in the history of Jewish people in China.” Through a series of “many” twists-and-turns (and I mean “many”), here we are today.

With the incredible support of our Foundation trustees, we were able to gather a wonderful “collection” of people including 13 Jewish survivors of the Holocaust who found refuge in Shanghai. The history of the refugees in Shanghai during WWII is not well known and it is our honor to introduce this story to you during this event!

Humanity is sensitive! The Holocaust is a story about a complete breakdown in humanity. Yes, the story of WWII is strongly associated with the Holocaust, the murder of 6 million Jewish people. But, the story of the Nazi Scourge is much deeper, exposing that some 13 million of all backgrounds were murdered or killed under the Nazi rule and more importantly that 60+ million were murdered or killed on the WWII stage all over the world.

Asia played a small role in the fate of the Jewish people but we believe the interesting stories that took place in Shanghai, Japan and even the Philippines add to the overall story of how humanity acts in mysterious ways.

We cannot change history and there is no “best practice” method to preserve the importance of explaining humanity during WWII. Our goal for this event is simply to introduce and open another door for us to explore. In doing so, we feel it is OK to smile, enjoy the company of new faces, engage in asking questions and benefit from interactions outside your normal “comfort zone.”

Note: Holocaust education using philatelic and numismatic material is one small part of our mission statement. Please note the Foundation has no interest in the production, distribution of medals associated with the Shanghai Memory project.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR KEY PROJECT & EVENT SPONSORS

I am deeply interested in Sino-Judeo relations, having Jewish god-grandparents, and knowing my Shema, Danny Spungen just shy of a decade. The KMJ Group is first and foremost a faith-based company - the opportunity to tell the story of God's faithfulness to his people in a time of great turmoil was our primary motivating factor in getting involved with this project. Our faith in the success of the program really was just a bonus - the team and I consider the opportunity to share with people a tangible medal commemorating the 70th anniversary of the Shanghai Ghetto a true privilege. Michael Lertchitvikul, Ken & Justin Park.

As a Chinese growing up in 1970s, I was always interested in World War II history. After I became a coin dealer in the USA, I started paying great attention to coins and medals related to World war II. So when I heard the Shanghai Mint was producing medals related to the Jewish refugees in Shanghai, I decided to get involved in this program immediately. I myself heard small stories about the refugees but I never knew too much. I have already learned so much more through the symbols and stories that come with the medals. I believe this program will be a great success and many collectors and Chinese public will be happy to learn about this.
AN ADDITIONAL THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS EVENT CONTRIBUTORS

North Shore Chinese Christian Church  Anonymous Sponsorship from China
Located in Deerfield, Illinois

Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center  PEER Chain Company
Located in Waukegan, Illinois
Wei Wei

YOUR KEYNOTE SPEAKER
MANLI HO

As the daughter of a diplomat, Manli Ho was born in Cairo, Egypt, and grew up in Mexico, Bolivia and Colombia. After graduating from Smith College, she joined the Boston Globe where she was on the reporting team that earned the paper a Pulitzer Prize in 1975 for Meritorious Public Service for its “massive and balanced coverage of the Boston school desegregation crisis.”

In 1981, she helped found China Daily, China’s national English language newspaper in Beijing, and has returned to help the paper with its coverage of the Asian Games in 1990, the Beijing Olympics in 2008, and with the launching of China Daily’s US edition in 2009 and 2010. In 2012, she helped the paper revamp its copy desk system. She has also used her interviewing skills as a reference specialist for the Boston-based executive search firm of Isaacson Miller.

For the past 15 years Manli has been painstakingly uncovering and documenting the humanitarian work of her late father, the Chinese diplomat Dr. Feng Shan Ho, while he was serving as China’s Consul General in Vienna, Austria on the eve of World War II. She considers this to be her most important journalistic work and is writing a book. She also created and wrote the text for the historic photographic exhibit “Wings of the Phoenix: Feng Shan Ho and the Rescue of Austrian Jews”.

GEOGRAPHY OF SHANGHAI REFUGEES

[Map showing the geography of Shanghai Refugees]
A Special Thank You to Our Honorary Guests

Qiming Zhao and Rocky Zhao

Mr. Qiming Zhao is an icon at Shanghai Banknote Printing Co., engraver and artist of paper money and stamps. His son, Rocky Zhao, is following in his footsteps as a designer of numerous official commemoratives with the Shanghai Mint. As the designer of the Shanghai Memory medals, Rocky views his work in a combination of artistry and poetry. Out of respect we can only share his original words for those that speak Chinese:

In recognition of Rotarian Peace Hall of Fame

Rotarians are often instruments of peace and tolerance. The Rotarian Peace Hall of Fame identifies Rotarian Peacemakers who created and are creating peace. The exemplary will be enshrined in the Rotarian Peace Hall of Fame, located in the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center. They will be highlighted as peace creating role models for over 100,000 annual attendees. Located in Skokie, Illinois, six (6) miles from Rotary International’s worldwide headquarters in Evanston, Illinois.

Steve Hochstadt

Professor of History at Illinois College. His grandparents escaped Vienna in 1939 and went to Shanghai. He has written two books about the flight of Jews to China including Exodus to Shanghai: Stories of Escape from the Third Reich.
I was born in Berlin in 1930. My parents were Harry and Selma Soloman. We left Berlin a year after Kristallnacht (Night of the Broken Glass). My father, who was a doctor, read Hitler’s book Mein Kampf, and decided to leave the country. At that point, one of the ways to leave the country was through Shanghai, they did not require visas or sponsors. We were there for 8 years due to the war.

We were in the French Concession area. When the ghetto was established in 1943, because my father was a doctor, we got permission live outside the ghetto. My father rode to the Hongkew (Shanghai) Ghetto area every day to tend to the refugees in the camps. We were able to stay together as a family in one room. I went to an English speaking Jewish School and lived, what I perceived, was a normal life.

Shortly after the war, I was 17, we got sponsorship to the U.S. and moved to Chicago, where I finished High School and attended U of Illinois. I got married and we have 3 children and 3 grandchildren.
My name is Trixie Wachsner, maiden name Braun, born in Graz, Austria. My parents and I fled Hitler and came to Shanghai in 1938 from Genoa, Italy on the ship Conte Biancamano (the same vessel featured on the 2013 Shanghai Memory medal). I was 11 years old. My father was a physician and we first lived in a room in French Concession and then moved to the International Settlement. I attended the Public School for Girls, an English school and received my Cambridge Certificate there, and then attended St. John's University for a year (outside of Hongkew until the Japanese forbade it). In 1943, we were ordered to move into the Hongkew (now Honkou) Ghetto by the Japanese. I was 16. I met my husband in the ghetto and we were married in 1946 after the war in Shanghai. We left there in October 1947 on a small cargo ship the American Mail and landed in Seattle, Washington in November of that year. We moved to Portland, Oregon where my two sons were born. Nine years later, we moved to San Mateo, California where our daughter was born. We then moved to Los Angeles, California. My husband was in the insurance business for 45 years and I was in the travel business for 30 years. My husband passed away in March of this year. I am now retired. Shanghai was our refuge and we are grateful for that.
For me the nightmare began when I was seven years old in 1939. My father, Rabbi Samuel Walkin, was forced to flee our home in Belarus under the threat of arrest. My father attempted to reach Vilna where his brother lived.

It was not long after the rest of the family (my mother, sister and brother) were hidden in the back of a wagon and traveled through the forests (obviously roads were unsafe for the Jews) with little food and minimal shelter from the winter elements to meet my father.

Luckily my father was able to secure exit visas to Curacao from Japanese council and righteous gentile, Chiune Sugihara. We boarded the Trans Siberian Railroad from Moscow to Vladivostok, a distance of 5,778 miles. The mood on the train for two weeks was one of fear and insecurity. We, the children, were cautioned not to talk to anyone. The packed trains were guarded by the soldiers.

Arriving in Vladivostok, we boarded a boat for Kobe, Japan. We arrived early morning; both Japanese men and women were welcoming us by tossing tangerines in the waters, but were afraid they might want to poison us.

The refugees were given housing. The markets were full of fruits and vegetable and we marveled at the gracious manners and dignity of the Japanese. The children were enrolled in a Japanese school; we picked up the language and writing very quickly.

Within the year, we were shipped to Shanghai. Life in Shanghai was hard and brutal, but we were neither slaughtered nor exterminated. We tried to make our lives as normal as possible. We had our own newspapers, theater, restaurants, cultural centers, religious centers, kosher food, our own tailors and shoe makers, which were all in the Ghetto. It was a society within a society. My schooling was at the Shanghai Jewish School, the Kadoorie school, and then I also went to Bais Yaakova Religious School. Our curriculum was highly advanced. 

In 1943 the Americans bombed Shanghai several times. I remember an air raid going off in school. There was not enough time to run to the shelter; so we all crawled under our desk, and covered our heads. Some of us got up some did not. 

1945 was a great year. The American soldiers landed in Shanghai. The War is Over. The War is Over.

We lost everyone back home in Belarus that stayed behind. We had a choice to go to South Africa, or the United States. We chose whichever will come through first. America the beautiful came through first. 

Our family settled in New York where my father rebuilt the synagogue community that was destroyed in Europe. I married an American born young man, Michael and we chose to continue our tradition. He became Rabbi of Poalie Zedeck, a synagogue that is still in existence for over 175 years. 

G-d blessed us with 5 beautiful children, many grandchildren and great grandchildren, all following the orthodox traditions of our forefathers.
My name is Edie (Oelsner) Shafer. I was born in the Shanghai Ghetto on January 30, 1941, and lived there until 1948. At the age of seven my parents and I were able to immigrate to the United States. I graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and taught school for one year before getting married.

I was able to stay home and raise my three children; I now have eight grandchildren.

Presently I am involved with two major activities: speaking to children and adults about my Holocaust experiences, and at the Jewish Home and Care Center where I am on a few boards and also serve as a hospice volunteer.

I am having a book written about my family’s story that should be out in a matter of months.
I was born in Forst, Germany on February 13, 1923 to Pessa and Leiser Weinblum. Both of my parents were Polish citizens. I had one older brother, Jakob, and two younger brothers, Sigfried and Max.

After Kristallnacht my father was taken to a labor camp (no concentration camp). My mother, seeing her sister-in-law and family sent back to Poland, knew she had to act fast. She sold everything she could of value and got passports for our family to go to Shanghai. First she had to get my father out of the labor camp. She paid the camp guards money to get my father out and he left two nights later for Shanghai (alone) in the beginning of 1938. My mother and the four children went via the Indian Ocean four months later. We bought a small house in an area that was affordable to us (which after the Japanese invaded became the Ghetto), and my mother took in laundry and borders to keep our family fed. I worked as a waitress to help feed my brothers.

I met my husband in Shanghai and we were engaged to be married. We married after the war in Shanghai while awaiting visa’s to come to the USA.

My parents had to go back to DP (displaced person) camps in Germany since the Polish quota was used for survivors of camps first.

My mother single handedly saved not only my family, but she also saved an American border in our home. My two younger brothers came to the USA first, hanging around San Francisco with money from HIAS and waited for my husband and me to arrive. Our family arrived in Chicago soon thereafter.
My name is Gary Matzdorff. I was born July 10, 1921 in Berlin, Germany – an only child. I was 17 years old when my parents, grandmother and I boarded a freighter bound for Shanghai.

In 1947, still in Shanghai I met and married Ilse Marianne Terner from Vienna, Austria. We came to America together in 1948 and started our life in Minneapolis – moving in 1956 to Los Angeles with our four children.

I was apprenticed as a leather worker in Germany, and that was my profession in America—manufacturing leather goods. My company, Gary's Leather, was sold in 2003. I have been back to Shanghai six times and most recently in May.
My parents and I arrived in Shanghai, China from Berlin (my birthplace) when I was 2 years old, in May 1940. We lived in Shanghai for seven years. My recollection as a child was more vivid during the last three years of the war, the period when the Japanese interned us in a ghetto. I remember the constant bombing by US B-29 bombers, day and night, as they attempted to destroy Japanese facilities. There was the whistling sound of bombs falling, and the loud explosions. Life was hard and food was scarce. Diseases, including typhus, dysentery, were rampant. A daily pass was required to leave the ghetto. My dad managed to find work outside the ghetto, but to get a daily pass was a nightmare. We were at the mercy of the Japanese in command, who would approve or deny the daily pass at whim. I recall going to the Kadoorie school, which was walking distance from our apartment. I always had to prepare to quickly return home from school to take cover on the first floor of our apartment building whenever an air raid alarm was sounded. I remember vividly the extensive bombings that occurred near the end of the war. I also remember helping my dad who was part of a water brigade to put out fires. After the war ended in 1945, we remained in Shanghai for two more years until we were able to get a visa to enter the United States in July, 1947.

Our first port of entry in the US was San Francisco. With the help of HIAS we ended up in New York City where I lived for the next 15 years. I received my education in various schools and got my BSEE, Electrical Engineering Degree from City College of New York in 1962. For the next 41 years, I worked as a civilian for the US government. I worked for NASA for 8 years and the FAA for 33 years. I have been residing in the Atlanta, Georgia suburbs for the last 31 years. I retired in 2003 and am presently teaching part time in a local university. I met my wife in Washington DC and we are now married 37 years. We have two grown sons and one granddaughter.
In June of 1939, my parents, Cantor Leopold & Carla Fleischer, maternal grandparents and my mother’s brother, Heinz Frankenstein, left Swinemunde, Germany on a ship to Shanghai, China. My paternal grandparents along with my father’s sister did not want to come to the Shanghai Ghetto; they ended up dying at Auschwitz concentration camp. Initially, my family lived on Ward Road, for a very short time and then moved to 83 Wayside Road, in the Hongkew District which later became part of the Shanghai Ghetto. On March 6, 1940, I was born in Shanghai, China. Although I was very young while in Shanghai, I still have many memories.

My father was a cantor (leads the Jewish congregation in music and prayer along with the rabbi) and teacher. My family also owned Star Transportation. My uncle started a bakery business with another gentleman.

In 1946, I started school at Shanghai Jewish Youth Association (Kadoorie) School.

In January of 1948, we all sailed, on a crowded transport ship (SS Marine Adder) to San Francisco, CA.

In 1955, we moved to Chicago when my father acquired a full-time job in Hyde Park.

Currently, I have three children and seven grandchildren, and I work as a nurse.
I was born in Berlin, Germany on March 4, 1933, the youngest of 4 children. My father, mother, sister and I left by train to Genoa, Italy in April of 1939. My father, my sister and I were on one boat and my mother on another boat headed for Shanghai. My second oldest brother was supposed to go to England, where we had some relatives, but he changed his documents after we left and followed us to Shanghai. The oldest brother was supposed to go to Palestine, but did not make it and died in a concentration camp. I was in Shanghai from age 6 to 16, attended the Shanghai Jewish Youth Association school, except for about a year when I went to Yeshiva to study to be a Rabbi. My father died in Shanghai in 1946. My older brother left for the U.S. in 1947 and my mother, sister and I did not get out until 1949 due to quota restrictions. In fact, we were on one of the last boats out before the Communists took over Shanghai.

I finished high school in Chicago and shortly thereafter enlisted in the army and served as a paratrooper during the Korean war. After being discharged in 1955 I attended the University of Illinois at Navy Pier for one year and then went to work at Sherwin Williams, where I met my wife. We will be celebrating our 55th wedding anniversary on the 28th of June. Job changes took us to Indiana, Kansas City, Missouri, Ohio and Maryland. We retired to Pebble Beach, California in 1999 where I remain active playing tennis, taking long walks and doing volunteer work.
Kurt Jacoby was born on October 26, 1928 in Berlin, Germany. After witnessing the horrors of Kristallnacht on November 9, 1938, his family decided to immigrate to Shanghai, China. On December 1, 1938, Kurt, together with his younger brother Gerhard and his parents Martha and Erich Jacoby boarded the Conte Rosso ship arriving in Shanghai on December 31, 1938. The ship was a luxury cruiser and to 10 year old Kurt, the trip was a great adventure filled with all-you-can-eat delicious food. In Shanghai the Jacoby family purchased a 7-room house, living in one room and renting out six with all residents sharing one bathroom. While in Shanghai, Kurt attended the Shanghai Jewish School and then the ORT school where he trained to become a sheet metal worker. In 1947, the family moved to Chicago, Illinois. Kurt served in the United States National Guard and started working as a sheet metal worker for Warner Corporation, where he worked for the next thirty-eight years until his retirement. On March 1, 1953 he married Ann Berghausen, also a survivor of the Holocaust. Kurt volunteered for 50 years with the Chevra Kadischa, the Jewish burial society. He had two children, Judith (Judy) Riback married to Paul Riback and Kenneth (Ken) Jacoby married to Gale (Raphaelson) Jacoby. He is blessed with four grandchildren and three great grandchildren and currently resides in Lincolnshire, Illinois.
I was born in Berlin in 1934. My parents, brother (Kurt) and I left Berlin in 1938 after Kristallnacht ("night of the broken glass") because it became intolerable for my parents. We went to Shanghai, since it was the only Country that would allow us in without visas or sponsorship. We lived in the Shanghai Ghetto, yet it did not become a Ghetto until 1943. I went to the Kadoorie school until I was 13. We came to the United States in 1947. We were sponsored by our first cousins in Chicago, where we ended up. I finished High School and a local college, before getting married. We lived in Chicago for 10 years, before moving to Morton Grove. We had 2 boys who both live in Vernon Hills with their wives. I also have 2 granddaughters. I have lived in Lincolnshire for the past 13 years.
I was born in Vienna, Austria in 1929. In 1939 I fled to Shanghai with my family on the Biancamano (the same vessel featured on the 2013 Shanghai Memory medal). My father did not go with us; we found out after the war that he passed away in Russia of typhoid. I lived in the Shanghai Ghetto for 7 years.

In March 1945 when I first got to leave the Ghetto and go into town I met my husband, an American soldier that was Catholic. We were married just 6 weeks later. After 62 years of marriage we have 4 children, 12 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren. I lost my husband 5 years ago and daughter 6 years ago.
I was born February 6, 1938 in Krefeld, Germany. My father, Walter, was picked up by the Gestapo in May 1938. He was placed in Dachau concentration camp. My mother got him out. She made arrangements to go to Shanghai. We arrived in Shanghai in September 1938 and lived there until 1948. The Shanghai Ghetto had many trials and tribulations. It was still better living under Japanese rule than the Nazis. Thus my first 10 years were spent speaking German at home, some Chinese on the streets and English in the British (Kadoorie) school that I attended.
Jerome was born in Berlin, Germany in 1937. He went to Shanghai after Kristallnacht in November 1939 with his Mom and Dad. Jerome does not have many memories of being in Shanghai since he was so young while there, although he does recall attending Kadoorie for grammar school. In 1947, Jerome and his parents left Shanghai to come to the United States. In 1997, he took a cruise from Beijing to Shanghai, and attempted to jog his memory while in Shanghai. He remembers the school he attended as well as his home. Currently, Jerome resides in Northbrook, Illinois.

Jenny Schwartz (maiden name: Rosenthal) was very young while in Shanghai. Her parents went to Shanghai in 1939, and Jenny was born in 1941. Jenny was in Shanghai with her parents until they left in 1948 for San Francisco, then came to Chicago where her uncle lived. Since Jenny was so young while in Shanghai, she does not have much of a memory of day-to-day activities; although, she does remember living in an apartment and using umbrellas because the rain would leak through the roof. She has not been back to Shanghai since 1948, but is going to visit with two friends in October. Jenny currently resides in Highland Park with her husband.
CARLA SCHOCK

SHANGHAI REFUGEE

PASSPORT EXTENSION

The following was discovered through the Chicago Tribune on August 14, 2013.
She was warmly permitted to attend this event.

Current Location:
Palos Heights, Illinois

Carla Shock (maiden name: Klein) is 82 years old and was born in Vienna, Austria. In 1939, at just 8 years old, Carla went to Shanghai with her widowed mother and her brother, who was 5 years older than her. Carla was in Shanghai until 1948, and has a great memory of being there. She can remember day-by-day activities of what she went through! In 1948, Carla went with her mother and her brother to San Francisco and then ended up in Chicago. Currently, Carla lives in Palos Heights, Illinois; she is a widow. She has children that live in the area, and also a daughter that lives in Atlanta.

JOSEF KLINGER

SHANGHAI LIBERATOR

PASSPORT EXTENSION

The following liberator attended the August 15, 2013 dinner event in hopes of finding a gentleman by the name of Klaus Marcus.

Current Location:
Arlington Heights, Illinois

Josef Klinger became a special guest at the Hyatt Regency on August 15. When he heard of the dinner event, he came to find a man by the name of Mr. Klaus Markus; he even had the photo that was taken in 1945 (pictured below). Joe has been thinking of and searching for Klaus Markus since then. Joe was one of the first USA Navy ships to enter Shanghai to liberate the city. Through many emails and phone calls, Klaus Marcus has been reached! He is located in California. Joe now has 10 grown children and lives in Arlington Heights, Illinois.
A COLLAGE OF MEMORIES IN SHANGHAI
The Florence and Laurence Spungen Family Foundation has been honored to participate around the world with their Nazi Scourge exhibition:

Billings West High, MT • Seton Hall, NJ • Rotary Clubs Worldwide Carmel Catholic High, IL • Coe College, IA • University of Memphis National Civil Rights Museum • Belz Museum, TN 92nd Street Y, NY • Patras, Greece • Northfield Mount Hermon, MA CJHS, IL • US Secret Service, DC • Appalachian State, NC Indiana University, IN • Trinity & Lessburg, FL Concordia Lutheran, Shanghai • Nanjing University, China Shanghai Finance University, China ...and Numerous More Great institutions!

The Florence and Laurence Spungen Family Foundation is proud to assist in funding the following 501c3 organizations in their attempt to accomplish their mission statements:

**Canary Foundation**
Primary Prevention Research for Ovarian Cancer

**CANDLES Holocaust Museum**
Holocaust Museum dedicated to the Education & Prevention of Prejudice

**Colon Cancer Alliance for Research & Education for Lynch Syndrome**
Medical Education & Research

**Direct Relief International**
Medical Aid for Worldwide Emergencies

**Doctors without Walls-Santa Barbara Street Medicine**
Medical Care for Homeless Women

**Dystonia Medical Research Foundation**
Medical Education & Research

**Food from the Heart**
Home delivered food for Terminally Ill

**Foundation for Jewish Camp**
Jewish Camping

**Friends of the Israel Defense Forces**
Medical Intervention in Worldwide Emergencies

**Holocaust Memorial Foundation of Illinois, Inc**
Museum for Education of Holocaust

**Jewish Federation of Greater Santa Barbara**
Jewish Family Service

**Life Chronicles, Inc**
Video-taping of Terminally Ill Patients

**Midwest Palliative & Hospice Care Center**
Hospice Program

**Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine**
Research in Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia

**Santa Barbara Village**
Support Network for Seniors

China May 2013
A Foundation to support projects and research in medicine, Jewish culture and causes special to all our local communities.

FLORENCE(D) LAURENCE CAROL DEBBI DANNY GLENN

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