STRIMLING FAMILY ORIGINS AND HISTORY Version - September, 2010

Introduction

The following is the story of the Strimling family. It grew by itself after attempting to discover who the original family immigrants to the United States of America were, where they came from, and why.

This is the third version of this particular family history. The first version was completed in 1979 and produced on a typewriter. The second version was updated in 1994 and by then I had become computer literate. Now, I have almost completed the project of published to our family website, <u>www.siegelphotos.net</u>, all of the family histories that I have worked on over the years. In order to see the actual family tree, you will need to email us for the user name and password. Please identify yourself and your relationship. We are making an effort to allow personal data to be password protected.

Although I didn't know how lucky I was when I started this project and other family histories as well, there were many family members still alive to interview and to record their memories and stories. Even at that, there were many discrepancies among family members as to the what, where and how of particular events or relationships. Its always that way as memory is subjective. However, I was and still am, always especially interested in people's stories and so I hope you, the reader, will be interested as well.

I believe that if we don't record the stories, they will soon be lost forever.

I have collaborated with Dave Honig and Yoel Strimling where our interests have intersected. Yoel can be found on Facebook or Dave Honig <u>dfave1041@verizon.net</u> for further information. I have used Dave's material to update my family tree since he says he updated about 2 years ago, and I had last updated about 10 years ago. Also, I have tried to credit contributors wherever I could. I have used all of the material that had been sent to me over the last fifteen years and hopefully it is all included in either the narrative or the tree. I thank all of you who have contributed to this document and I am happy to share any and all information.

I have decided not to include what everyone was doing 15 years ago or since they probably aren't doing the same thing today anyway. I did include some things, which I thought were of general interest.

I am always happy to hear from anyone with new information.

Sincerely,

Dianne Siegel Siege005@umn.edu 727 Woodridge Drive St. Paul, MN 55118 612-457-9869 (wife of Leighton Siegel)

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

My mother-in-law, Rose Ostrin Siegel Bernstein, provided much of the original information about the Strimling family. Without her help, this project would never have been undertaken. Other people that were helpful in the original version included: Adeline Ostrin Cohn, Louis Strimling, Rose Gorsen, Estelle Gale, Donna Cohn Stone, Harold Strimling, Freyda Myers Cooper, Peter Simonstein Cullman, and Jane Winer, Jan Gratch, John Drayman, Gene Strimling and Andrea Strimling. All were particularly helpful in gathering information for the update and of course, thank you to everyone who responded to my letter asking for information.

Harry Strimling gave me most of the information about Mose, Sam and Fanny. With us at that interview on October 24, 1978 was his daughter, Nancy Skadron. In addition to Harry Strimling, Bert and Rosalyn Strimling and Minnie Bearman Strimling shared many of their memories for that section of the history

Before the Beginning - A Bit of History

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, Milnsk, 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 1897 there were more than 5 million Jews living in this area.



In the Beginning ---

About 1880, Russia, for a brief period, encouraged the emigration of Jewish families. Many, including the Strimlings, left Russia in order to give their children a chance at finding a better life in the new world.

There are not very many of us who had ancestors so thoughtful and concerned about family that they themselves recorded the family history. The Strimling family is one of the fortunate few. In 1903, Labe Levitas Strimling wrote on the fly leaf of a Book of Job the following, translated from the Yiddish by Rabbi Noah Golinkin: Description of my life: My name is Labe Levitas.. 1842 I was born .. 1843 My wife was born, .. Roshdisht (?) ..., the mother of the children. 1847 We started going to the cheder (Hebrew School) 1858 I finished cheder 1858 I was traveling with merchandise 1860 My mother died 1864 I got married in Shavel 17.2783 ftőt. 1866 Manne was born 1868 Chanke was born 1870 Shamke was born 1872 Avramke was born 1874 Moishe was born 1879 My father died 1879 Velvke was born in Konotop 1880 Ganeshke was born in Konotop 1886 Chaike was born 1883 I traveled from Konotop to ... 1887 Elke was born 1883/84/85 (?) Avramke left for ... 1888 Chanke (got married ?) in Konotop 1890 Moishe left for America 1890 ... left for America 1892 Chanke with Shenken (Joshua) moved to ... 1882 I had "zadiska" - Russian word meaning some difficulty in breathing, asthma 1887 My wife .. also had rheumatism 1898 Mishke (Moishe) went to 1899 Velvke went to (Shavel?) 1874 I acquired the ... (concession of some kind) 1894 I sold the ... Added by Louis Strimling in 1946: 1948 Moishe died (possibly 1946)

Labe continues "I have written this down in the Book so people can refer to it. The "concession" was good for twenty years, nothing special, nothing to brag about. So I left it out of the beginning of my writing. I took the trouble to inscribe this so it should be a remembrance for all the children about the years, how old they are, and for me personally; it is necessary to know sometimes. It will undoubtedly come in handy when they will sometimes take the Book in their hands and they will read this. They will surely be pleased." Labe Levitas (written 20 February 1903, 10th of Adar) A last line is illegible; perhaps "This is a remembrance from Father."

The above, along with a fairly complete list of important dates is written in Hebrew and Yiddish and is in the flyleaf of a Bible that was in the possession of Freda Strimling (wife of the late Louis Strimling) in Israel. I am not sure who has it now, perhaps their daughter.

The older relatives, those who are no longer with us, seemed to feel that wherever there was a Strimling family, they are related. Indeed, Strimlings are found all over the world and the family lore is that they are all related, even if we are not sure just how. Occasionally, some do turn up where the connection is not obvious and I have grouped them together and hope that someone else can fill in the blanks. Perhaps they descended from other brothers of Nossan and Schmuel as it is likely there were more siblings or perhaps there were other children of Schmuel of whom we are unaware, or perhaps their were earlier generations that would tie everyone together.

The family name in the Ukraine was Levitas. The name was changed in order to keep the sons out of the Russian Army. The family took Strimling as its official name and never went back to the original Levitas. The word Strimling means fisherman of the sea and it is the name of a favorite fish in Lithuania. It has been said that in a small lake in Bavaria, Germany there were to be found tiny little fish something like an anchovy. A relative of the family owned the property that the lake was on. The relative and the fish were both named Strimling. The word itself, "Strimling", is of Germanic origin. It is interesting to note as can be seen on the page about Albert, that he came to the United States using the name Levitas. However, he had been separated from his family at an early age and was probably not aware of the Strimling name. (information about Albert came from research done by Yoel Sandler.)

Two Brothers - Schmuel and Nossan are the earliest relatives that we know about

It is believed that in the beginning as far back as I can trace the history, there were two brothers in Shavol, province of Kovna, Lithuania. One brother was Nossan, and the second brother was Schmuel. These are the brothers that I write about in this document.

Our Minnesota family of Strimlings is descended from Nossan. Nossan's family moved from Shavol to the Ukraine and later moved to Konotop, in Northern Ukraine. The family of Schmuel moved from Lithuania to Sweden.

The Family of Nossan

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Nossan m. First wife d. 1860 Labe Livitas Strimling Nossan m. 1860 Merrill Mose Strimling Samuel Strimling Fanny Strimling

Nossan is the relative that is common to the greatest number of the Strimling descendants in this country. He had two wives and thus two branches of his family. Each will be discussed separately. His first wife died in 1860 and her name is unknown. Nossan and his first wife were the parents of Labe Strimling. Labe died in Brod, Russia. More about Labe follows. Nossan's second wife was named Merrill. They were married in 1860. The English versions of their names were Nathan and Mary. They were the parents of Mose Strimling, Sam Strimling and Fanny Strimling. Mose, a son of Merrill and Nossan, was the first to immigrate to the United States.

Nossan, was a senior bureaucrat in the Tzar of Russia's government. As a result, the Strimling family was privileged and could travel freely, and the children could attend choice schools. After Nossan died, the Tzar cancelled all of the family privileges.

Nossan did not leave Russia. In 1879, after Nossan had died, Merrill immigrated to the United States with her two younger children, Sam and Fanny. Moses had immigrated earlier. Merrill remarried Julius Bernstein and had a daughter, Ethel, from that marriage. Ethel married Arnold Karon. Merrill was also known as Mary. She died in 1905. Ethel and Arnold Karon had two children: Ira and Lorene, both of whom are deceased. Ira had four or five children. His wife's maiden name was Goodman. Lorene married Jacob Greenberg from Texas and they had two children. Jacob Greenberg was reported to manufacture jeans.

The Family of Labe Strimling

Labe is the son of Nossan and his first wife. According to the dates that he himself listed in the family bible, he was born in 1842, started cheder in 1847, finished cheder in 1858 and in that same year began traveling with merchandise. His wife, Ada Sher, the mother of his children, was born in 1843. They were married in Shavol, Lithuania in 1864 and moved to Konotop in 1874. Shavol was in Kovna, Gaberna. (A Gaberna is equivalent to a State.) Labe's and Ada's relationship was a love affair - very unusual in those days. They had nine children. All of the children came to America, but not all stayed in the Minneapolis community. Each of the children will be discussed separately. Ada died in the United States in September, 1914. Some of her relatives whose families also live or did live in the Twin Cities were Mrs. Jennie Friedson, Mrs. Cheminow and Mr. Morris Ressen.

It seems that Labe and Ada lived in Shavol, Lithuania until 1874 when they moved to Konotop. Later in 1883, they moved to Brod, Russia. The move to Russia from Lithuania was very difficult and was accomplished in a covered wagon according to the stories that have been told. Labe said in his family history that from 1874 to 1894 he had a "concession." His "concession" was that he provided water for the village. In 1894 he said he "made a living that he couldn't brag about for 20 years and sold the business."

The following information on Konotop comes from the Museum of the Diaspora in Tel Aviv, in November 1980. The information is as follows:

Konotop, city in Ukrainian U.S.S.R. at the beginning of the 19th century, only a few Jews lived in Konotop, but by 1847 the number had grown to 521. Pauline Wengeroff, who lived there for some years, describes Jewish life in the town during the 19th century in her memoirs. The numbers increased considerably during the second half of the 19th century as a result of the movement of Jews from the Northwestern Provinces of the pale of settlement to the southeastern ones, reaching 4426 (23.5% of the total population in 1897.) In April 1881 the Jews of Konotop also suffered from the wave of pogroms, which swept across southern Russia.

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In 1883 Labe and Ada heard that Baron D'Hirsh of Germany was arranging for Jewish families to go to America and he would supply the passage. Baron D'Hirsh's plan was to help settle the Jewish families on farms in the United States, Canada and South America, thus the Jews would be able to escape the pogroms then taking place in Europe. Baron D'Hirsh believed that if Jews could be resettled on farms, they would be better accepted by their neighbors. The family took their children and made their way to a designated port city in Russia. When they arrived, there were many rumors. They heard that life wasn't so good in the United States; that instead of farms, the Jews were made to work in the sweatshops in New York. Labe was worried. He had very bad asthma and he felt that he would not live if he were to be made to work in such sweatshops. So, he and Ada changed their minds about emigrating. According to the information left by Labe, the family moved to Brod in 1883 and it was probably after this decision had been made that they then went to Brod. Apparently

Ada had an Aunt living in Brod and that likely influenced their decision to join a family member.

Meanwhile, during the time they spent in the port city of Russia, there were socialists who went around to the various families and tried to convince some of them to send a son to Germany to be educated. They promised that the son would be educated and that he would be in touch with his family and that they would send him home if he were lonesome. Albert, then 10 years old, begged to be allowed to go with these men and boys and in a weak moment, the family relented. Labe and Ada went on to Brod. Labe never saw Albert again. Twenty-five years later, Albert and his mother, Ada, were reunited in Minneapolis. Two more children were born after this period of decision - Chaim (Chaike) in 1886 and Ella (Elke) in 1887. Labe, at this time, had a feed store presumably in Brod.

Labe died at age 45 in the year 1904. He died reportedly because of his asthma. He wrote in his notes that Ada had contracted rheumatism in the year 1887. Eventually, only Ada and her youngest daughter, Ella, remained in Russia. At this time they were living with some of Ada's relatives in Konotop. Ella had a fiancé in Russia who was not interested in emigrating. She considered staying in Russia and marrying her sweetheart, but her mother really wanted to see the other children again. There was some question about whether her mother could get a visa because of her age or health. So, a decision was made. If Ada could get a visa, mother and daughter would immigrate to the United States. If Ada could not get a visa, they would stay in Russia and Ella would marry her sweetheart. Ada received the visa and they went to America. Along with them were Mrs. Friedson and her mother - a cousin and aunt to Ella. Mrs. Friedson's daughter is Alice Gillman and her son is Al Friedson, both lived in Minneapolis. The voyage for the family was steerage and very difficult, but they made it successfully, entering the United States through a port in Canada and then coming directly to Minneapolis. It is an interesting sideline that on the Ship's roster, the registrar indicates that Ada is possibly senile, which we know wasn't true. One wonders, was it just language and communication?



8th near Lyndale, North Minneapolis – Martin Ginsburg is the policeman in the photo



Left to Right: Dora Strimling, Rose Gorsen, Mike Tomansky (hat), Albert Strimling (next to Mike), Harold Strimling (taller boy), Rose Strimling (Willie's daughter – small girl), Sarah Strimling (Albert's wife) next to him; Willie Strimling (last man on right), back of lady – unk.



Ella Strimling holding Mary Strimling.



Morris Strimling, Ann Tomansky, Willie Strimling, Ella Strimling Ostrin

ALBERT STRIMLING (Avram)

According to the best information that I have been able to gather, **Albert**, the second son of Labe Strimling was born in 1872 in Shavol, Lithuania and died in 1963. I did note that below he stated he was born in 1874, so he made himself a bit younger. As discussed above, Albert at 10 years of age was allowed by his parents to go to Germany with the socialists in order to become educated. He went to Berlin in 1883. He was indeed educated by the Socialists in whose care he had been placed. In the process, however, he almost died of loneliness at being separated from his family. The leaders continued to send the family encouraging letters. Albert was converted to socialism and communism and remained a believer all of his life. He tried to join the communist party, but they would not take him. Labe never saw Albert again. Twenty-five years later, Albert and his mother, Ada, were reunited in Minneapolis. When Albert came to Minneapolis for this reunion, the streets were filled with friends and neighbors, all wanting to see a mother and a son reunited after 25 years.

Hot off the press from Yoel Strimling – Albert immigrated using the name Levitas.

NAME: Albert Levitas ARRIVAL DATE: 20 Oct 1891 BIRTH YEAR: abt 1874 AGE: 17 GENDER: Male ETHNICITY/RACE-/NATIONALITY: Russian PLACE OF ORIGIN: Russia PORT OF DEPARTURE: Hamburg, Germany and Le Havre, France DESTINATION: Illinois PORT OF ARRIVAL: New York PORT ARRIVAL STATE: New York PORT ARRIVAL STATE: New York PORT ARRIVAL COUNTRY: United States SHIP NAME: Rhaetia

At an early age, Albert came to the United States. He married and settled in Chicago. He was an engraver by trade. He worked for Hansen and Company, which is a large engraving firm in Chicago. His wife was born in Suchaiva, Romania around 1885. Albert and his wife moved to Denver because of his first wife's ill health, and because he was offered a job with Sacks-Lawler who was in need of an engraver. His first wife died of Tuberculosis. Albert and his first wife had three sons: **Harold, Leonard and Raymond.** He remarried Sarah Laver in 1921. Sarah had a son, Sam Davis, when she married Albert. Sam remained very close to Albert throughout his life. Albert Strimling died at the age of 97. He was a very active man. He drove a car until he was well over 90 years of age. He was well read and well educated.

Harold married Bernice Doyel. They had two children - Jeffrey born and Sara. Sara died in August 1966 when she was thrown from a horse. Beatrice, Harold's wife, died when Sara was just four months old. Jeffrey was a CPA and settled in Sacramento.

Harold married again. His wife was Ida Rodgers. Harold was a Mechanical Engineer. He worked ten years with the Bureau of Reclamation and twenty-one years with the State of California in Sacramento. Leonard married Sylvia Stark from Cheyenne in (approximately) 1932 and had four daughters, Sharon, Marilyn, Marcia and Harriet. Leonard died of cancer in Albuquerque in 1964. My last communication with this family found Sharon Kahn and Marilyn Bomberg living in Albuquerque, New Mexico, Marcia Frankel living in Houston, Texas and Harriet Zisman living in San Carlos, California, which is near San Francisco. Leonard was in the liquor business in Albuquerque.

Raymond, the younger brother, lived in Virginia, near Washington, D.C. He was a retired military Air Force Lt. Colonel. He had one son who died in 1965. His wife was Maxine Curtis.

ANN STRIMLING (Chanke or Hannah)



According to the information recorded by her father Labe, Ann was born in 1868, the second daughter. She married Jake Tomansky in 1888 and went to the United States in 1892. Jake was a tailor, who died in his early 40's. The children changed their name from Tomansky to Thomas. After the death of her first husband, Ann married again. Her second husband was Morris Dalkin. According to the inscription on her tombstone, Anna Tomansky Dalkin was born in 1872 and died in 1942. However, I think this is incorrect, as her father lists her birth year as 1868.

Ann and Jake Tomansky had five children: William, Celia, Lena, Michael and Nathan.

The youngest child, **William Thomas** married twice. He first married Gertrude Cowitz and later married Ann Lazarus. They made their home in Lucille, Wisconsin.

The second child, **Celia**, married Harry Goldstein and they lived in Minneapolis. They had five children: Bernard Gale, Eileen Gale Winer, Rita Gale Abramson; Lenny Gale and Jerry Gale. When I met their daughter Jane, she was living in Columbia, MD and was an Associate Professor of Art and Art History at Colombia Community College. At that time, Jane's brother, Jeffrey, was an Associate Professor of Neuroanatomy at the University of California at Berkeley. It was Jane who helped find someone to translate the Yiddish of Labe's family tree into English.

Lena, the third child of Ann and Jake Tomansky, was married to Harry Wise. Lena died in childbirth. Their child, Estelle, grew up to marry her first cousin, Bernard Gale.

Mike Thomas was the second son and fourth child of Ann and Jake Tomansky. He married Beatrice.

Nathan Thomas, the fifth and last child, married Mildred. This family lived in or near Chicago. He was born in Minneapolis, but died in Chicago. They had three sons, Daniel and Gerald were doctors outside of Chicago and Lawrence was a lawyer.

MAX STRIMLING (Manne)

According to the information recorded by his father, **Max** was born in 1866 and went to America in 1890. He may have been the first child of Labe and Ada's to immigrate to the United States. He left home as a young teenager in order to avoid the army. Once recruited into the army in Russia, the length of service was 25 years. He must have been around 16 years of age when he came to the United States. Because of anti-Semitic persecution, either real or imagined and perhaps for reasons known only to himself, he didn't make his whereabouts known to his family; changed his name to Nick Drew and married a gentile woman. This would probably have been unacceptable to his parents at that time. When he first came to the United States he lived in Minneapolis and worked in a sweatshop. He developed Tuberculosis. The owner of the business was Jewish and treated him miserably. When the doctor suggested he move to the country, he moved to Mora, Minnesota and it was at that time that he changed his name to Nick Drew.

Max worked on a farm and married the farmer's daughter. They had one daughter who died at the age of five. He was happily married to his first wife for twenty years. No one knew that he was Jewish or anything about his family with whom he had no contact.

After the death of his wife, Max became very depressed. He apparently had knowledge that members of his family lived in Minneapolis, although the family believed that he was long dead since they had had no word from him for 20 years. He came to Minneapolis, went to the police station in North Minneapolis, asked for the Jewish policeman, who was his brother-in-law and made himself known. Imagine the family's surprise when Martin Ginsberg brought Max home!! He then stayed in Minneapolis for the next period of his life.

He married an orphan girl named Molly for whom everyone felt sorry. The family arranged the marriage. Molly died after five years. These were very happy years for Molly to whom Max was always kind, but they were not very happy years for Max. After Molly died, he married the cousin of his first wife, but remained in Minneapolis. He is buried in Mora. When he died, many townspeople came to the funeral. He was known as a kind and gentle man, well thought of by the many people who knew him.

SARAH STRIMLING (Shamke)



Sarah and Martin Ginsberg Wedding Picture

LANDER AND STREET SALES SALES STREET STREET STREET Mr. & Mrs. Tomansky ******************** request the pleasure of your presence ** AT ** the marriage of their sister Sarah Martin Ginsburg. Sunday Jan. sth 1896. at 4 fr. m. AT 567 sth Av North, Minneau and the state of the Wedding invitation of Sarah and Martin Ginsburg

Sarah was born in 1870. She was the third child born to Labe and Ada. She came to America in 1892. Sarah married Martin Ginsberg, after settling in Minnesota. Martin came from Rumania. He was a watchman when he first arrived and he later became a police Sergeant in North Minneapolis, a job he held for 33 years. After retiring, Martin sold insurance.

Martin was a "Good Samaritan." He was well thought of for his willingness to help find jobs for people that were out of work and he was always willing to help people in trouble. Martin was a very popular, well-liked man. He played baseball and loved both that sport and football. During the time he was a policeman, he was honored with a medal for rescuing people from a fire at the Verdome Hotel. One of the people he rescued was Mr. Dayton, the founder of the Dayton's Department Store.

Sarah's life centered around her home. Cooking and baking were very important to her. She loved company and was known for her baking. Frequently she would feed men that the Synagogue would send to her because they were hungry.

Sarah and Martin had four children: **Rose, Nathan, Harry, and Louis**. Somewhere along the way the family changed the name Ginsberg to Gainsley.

Rose Meyers Gorsen was married and divorced twice. She had a son, Harlow Meyers, who was in the radio and television field in Daly City, California.

Nathan (Nat) Gainsley was married to Anita Loraine Hartzberg. Nat was a jewelry appraiser. They had one son, James David Gainsley married to Renee Marsh.

Harry Gainsley was married Betty Blumeneranz. Harry was a lawyer in Minneapolis. They had three children: Melanie, Phillip and Julie.

Phillip is married to Bonnie Feldman. Phillip and Bonnie have two children, Peter and Elizabeth. Phillip is an attorney.

Louis Gainsley was married to Adele. Lou owned and managed real estate property, specifically shopping centers in the Twin City area. They had no children. Lou was also very involved in sports. He played football in high school. After high school, he played semi-professional baseball and football.

Wherever Lou traveled, he checked the phone book for Strimlings. When in Mexico City, Lou located a Senor Zusman Strimling in the phone book. He was a doll maker. They were not able to identify a relationship. Louis was also aware of Strimlings in South Africa and a Theodore Strimling who lives in Los Angeles and who is supposedly a descendent from the South African relatives.

MORRIS STRIMLING (Moishe)

According to the information recorded by his father, Labe, **Morris** was born in 1874 and went into the army in 1898. He married Elka in 1904 in Russia. It was an arranged marriage. He and his bride came to Minneapolis in 1905. Morris was an ultra religious man and a very gentle person. He owned the Northside Lumber Company. Morris died in 1946 and his wife, Elka, died in 1959. He lived at 516 Colfax Ave. North, in North Minneapolis.

Morris and his wife had five children: Mary, Louis, Ada, Julius and Rose.

Mary married Joseph Saul Honig in San Francisco. They settled in Phoenix. Mary was the only female lumber estimator in Arizona. She was very sought after at the time because of her skill at being able to estimate within \$100 the cost of materials for building a house and how much material one would need. Joseph worked at Mare Island Naval shipyard during WWII. Mary and Joseph were divorced in 1957. They had two sons, Allen and David. Allen lives in Phoenix and was an English teacher and high school counselor. Allen is married to Virginia Gallaway. He has two children: Michael and Judith Honig. Michael is an electrical engineer and wrote a textbook with his professor that is still in use in engineering schools. He is currently a full professor at Northwestern University. He is married with two children. Judith is in private practice in speech therapy in Tempe, Arizona. She is married to Matt Bergsman, an electrical engineer. They have two children.

David is married to Sandra Bauer. They have four children and live California. The children are Scott, Kenneth, Mark and Steven. Sandra worked as an executive secretary for the State of California and David was a teacher and taught for Pepperdine University in history and political science. He was also in administration in the school system. They live in Fountain Valley, California.

Louis Strimling was born in 1911. His wife's name was Freda Lapp. They were strong Zionists and immigrated to Israel in 1935 before it became a State. They had two children: a son, Shaul, born in 1941 and who died in 1966 of a brain stroke a few days before his wedding and a daughter Michelle, born in 1946, who is married to Yehuda Lean, an Israeli who works for the government. Louis started the first clothespin factory in Israel. They first lived on a Kibbutz and later on a Mosav, Kfar Vitkin.

Ada was married to Saul Graf and she lived in Minneapolis. They have one son, Melvin Graf who lives in Minnesota.

Julius Strimling was married to Elsie. Morris was extremely upset over this marriage because Elsie was a convert to Judaism, which was much less common in those years. She was very good to him and in later years he considered her a blessing. They had two children, Marcia and David. Marcia married John Tuttle and lived in Minnesota. David and Phoebe were living in Southfield, Michigan.

Rose, the last child of Morris and Elka, was born in 1909 and died of Nephritis in 1926.

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Census for 1905 listing Moses and Elka Strimling as well as Fanny and David Myers and family





WILLIAM (WILLIE) STRIMLING (Velvel)

According to the dates recorded by his father Labe, **Willie** was born in 1879 and died in 1921 of stomach cancer. He went into the army in 1899. Willie was a sweater manufacturer. Willie's wife was named Dora. They had three children: **Lillian, Louis and Rose**.

Lillian married Mike Cohen. They had one son, Erwin Marshall Cohen who lived in Glenwood, IL and had three children.

Louis was married to Kay and they had one son, Warren, who lived in Skokie, Illinois.

Rose was born 1911 and was married to Sam Rasof. Sam worked for the U.S. Postal Service and Rose worked for the Internal Revenue Service. They lived in Chicago and had no children.

NETTIE STRIMLING (Ganeshke)



According to the dates recorded by her father Labe, **Nettie** was born in 1880. She married Jake Price. Jake had a truck with which he delivered coal, wood, ice and generally scrambled to make a living. Nettie and Jake had three children: **Rose, Arthur and Ada**. **Rose Cowitz** moved from Detroit to Phoenix. Her children settled in Detroit, Michigan and Woodland Hills, California. **Ada Lew** lived in Oak Park, Michigan. Her job as an office manager of a large travel agency allowed her to travel to many parts of the world. Their daughter, Norma married to Joel Zaremby lived in Manhattan. Both she and Joel worked in advertising. **Arthur Price** was married to Anne. They lived in Los Angeles.. Their son, Robert and daughter, Judy Schultz were living in California.



Right to left: Rose Price, Mary Ostrin, Rose Ginsberg, Rose Ostrin in front; Arthur Price in back and Adeline Ostrin also in back

CHAIM STRIMLING (Chaike)

According to the dates recorded by his father, Labe, **Chaim** was born in Konotop, Ukraine, in 1886 and went to the army in 1902. Chaim was a tailor. He married Bessie Levitan. Bessie was from Buttock, Lithuania. They lived in Minneapolis, but later moved to Chicago.

Chaim and Bessie had four children: Bernard, Sorrel, Leonard and Nathan.

Bernard married Bernice and they had three children: Murton, Arnold and Wayne. I believe they raised their family in Chicago.

Dr. Murton Donald was married to Brenda Barrett and they lived in San Diego. Murton was a Radiologist and his wife Brenda was a teacher. They had two children, Robert Bernard, a Dermatologist and Susan Anne, a psychologist.

The second son was Dr. Arnold Miles in Chicago who married Karol (Cookie) Swatez from Minneapolis. They lived in Franksville, WI and Chicago, IL. Their children are Bradley Scott, and Melissa.

The third son is Wayne Roland. His wife, is Ellen Gladstone. Wayne was the Director of Research and Planning for EOB of Clark County. They live in Las Vegas, NV. Their children are Hillary Simone Strimling and Brooke Holly Strimling.

Sorrel lived in Morton Grove, Illinois, a suburb of Chicago. She was first married to Morris Friedman and had two sons and a daughter. The sons are Stuart and Ronald and her daughter is Maureen Friedman. Stuart taught at the University of Michigan and was a psychologist. Morris Friedman died and Sorrel remarried Seymour Blankstein.

The next son of Chaim and Bessie was **Leonard** married to Sylvia. They had one daughter, Barbara. Leonard worked in men's clothing. At one time, he modeled men's clothing.

Nathan was married to Ruth. Nathan went into his father-in-law's catering business, Levin's Kosher Catering Service in Chicago, and from there started King Kold Frozen Foods, Inc. They had two sons, Bruce, who was a physician, and another son, Richard, who was living in Texas. Bruce lives in Eugene, Oregon. His wife's name is Tracy. Bruce has two sons, Nathan and Joel. Last I heard from Richard he started a food brokerage firm and was a food broker with PMI/Eisenhart.







Ella in her later years with her beloved concertina

Ella Strimling was the youngest of the Strimling children of Ada and Labe. Because she was the youngest, and also very pretty, Ella was admired and treated as special. In fact, Ella was very bright. She hated Russia because in Russia there was no opportunity for her to be educated or to study music, which she loved. As it was, she was the only one among her sisters who could read and write Russian and Yiddish, and only because she was self-taught. In America, she taught herself some English as well. When she was nine years old, a concertina was bought for her brother. Ella taught herself to play, did it very well and played

the concertina all of her life. In Russia, Ella was asked to play at weddings and other simchas. Once in Minneapolis, she was asked to play for organizations and she was still entertaining with her concertina in the last year of her life while living at the Sholom Residence. After coming to Minneapolis, Ella was soon married, and in typical fashion for her day, geared her life to taking care of her family. She was a wonderful cook and always had a house full of food and always in great quantities. Ella was very kind and sensitive to others. If she knew of someone in need, she would send food without letting them know where it came from. Ella often spoke of her house in Russia where she lived with her mother and other relatives. She loved the trees and the orchards and continued her love of trees and the out of doors all her life. Ella was the kind of woman who gained the love and respect of all her family and friends and everyone around her.

When Chaim Strimling, Ella's brother, came to America, he brought with him his friend, Clayton Ostrin. They came to the United States around 1905. Clayton and Chaim had been in the Russian army together, and when the war with the Japanese broke out (1902), they ran away. Clayton had no place in particular to go, so he was happy to make his way to the United States with Chaim. Clayton had some money to help them along the way. During the course of their friendship, Chaim had already shown Clayton a picture of his sister Ella and told him how beautiful she was. Clayton was interested in Ella even before he met her. The story went that he was in love with her picture. It has also been told that when the family met the boys at the railroad station upon their arrival in Minneapolis, Clayton was upset because none of Ella's attention and affection was for him, but was instead for her brother Chaim who she, of course, hadn't seen for a long time. Nonetheless, romance flourished and they were married. Clayton always said that he wanted to marry a beautiful woman so that none of his children would suffer and when he saw Ella he knew that she was just the one.

Clayton was born in 1882 and he died in 1944. He owned a plant that manufactured dry cleaning and laundry machinery. When he and Ella lived in North Minneapolis on the second floor, could walk up the stairs to their apartment on his hands. His son, Lloyd, eventually took over that business. Ella and Clayton had five children: Lloyd, Albert, Mary, Rose and Adeline.

Lloyd was born in 1907 and died in 1990. He married Lily Livon and they lived in Minneapolis. They had two daughters - Joanne and Mudita. Mudita was named Karol Mae by her parents, but changed her name as an adult. Joanne is married to Jerry Goldstein. Joanne sells advertising and Jerry is retired from for Honeywell after 41 years. They have two children: Mark and Ellen. Mark is married to Dee. They have two children, Joey born in 1984 and a daughter, Audrey Rose. Joey has a daughter, Amika. Elle is married to Jacob Vaysberg. They have a daughter, Jessica Leigh, a son, Jason Daniel, and a daughter, Lily. They also live in Minneapolis. Elle owns and operates a deli specializing in Russian delicacies in Minnetonka and works in the advertising department of the American Jewish Jacob was in the watch repair business. Mudita was formerly married to Wesley World. Nisker. They have a daughter, Rose. Mudita lives in Oakland, California. Mudita's field is communication skills. She is a trainer and psychotherapist in private practice. Mudita has always been active in music and dance. Her particular love is Indonesian music and dance. Her daughter Rose, also studies Balinese dance and is a terrific juggler.

Albert Ostrin was born in 1911 and died in 1992. He was married twice. His first wife was Bernice Sussman and they had two children: Richard and Gary. Richard was born in 1940 and died in 2008. Richard had a daughter, Vaara married to Tom Schooley and they have two children, Joren, and Daniel. Gary has an automobile agency. Both brothers lived in

Minneapolis. Albert graduated from the University of Minnesota as a mechanical engineer. He worked extensively with pollution control before it became fashionable and he held several patents for developments in this area. According to his son Gary, Albert was all city tackle on the city champion North High football team and he became the Minnesota Big Ten Wrestling Champion without high school wrestling experience.

Mary Ostrin was born in 1909 and died at a young age in 1927. She married Moritz Kapelovitz. Mary met Moritz quite accidentally at her own house. Her mother was intending to introduce Moritz to a different girl named Mary. Mary Ostrin happened to come in and Moritz was very taken with her. She married him and they moved to Dickenson, North Dakota. She was married for ten months. Mary died of extreme vomiting and dehydration due to pregnancy. Moritz brought her back to her family's home to die. There was nothing that could medically be done for her at that time. She is buried at the Minneapolis Jewish Cemetery.

Rose Ostrin was born in 1914. She married Dr. Clarence Siegel in 1935. They married secretly because Clarence was then an intern at Anchor Hospital in St. Paul and it was a breach of his contract to marry. Rose's parents were aware of their plans to elope and were pleased. They kept the marriage a secret until Clarence finished his internship. Clarence's medical specialty was allergy and internal medicine with a subspecialty in chest diseases. He worked in Tuberculosis Sanitariums in his early years and then settled down to a private practice in St. Paul, where everyone knew him. During the years that Clarence was in practice in St. Paul, Rose was very active in the Jewish Community and in raising money for Israel. During this period, she was awarded the Woman of Valor award for her outstanding work with Israel Bonds.

Rose and Clarence retired to Florida for a number of years. Clarence died in 1978. Rose remarried Leon Bernstein, from Philadelphia, in 1986. Leon had been a founding partner of the international accounting firm of Laventhal and Horwath. They lived in West Palm Beach, Florida and Philadelphia, PA. Rose and Clarence had three children: Leighton, Andrea and Carolyn.

Leighton Siegel married Dianne Ziskin (the author of this history). Leighton went to the University of Minnesota Medical School, interned in Sacramento California and did a residency in Ear, Nose and Throat at the University Hospitals in Baltimore, MD. He practiced Ear, Nose and Throat in St. Paul, Minnesota until his retirement. Dianne was a social worker. She was Director of Adult Services for the St. Paul Jewish Community Center until retiring in 2005. They have three children: twin girls, Pamela and Lesli and Jeffrey. Pam graduated from University of Michigan at Ann Arbor in Operational and Industrial Engineering. She is employed by General Electric and is currently living in Minneapolis. She is married to Jon Passman and they have three children, Abraham, Jordan and Eve. Lesli graduated from Northwestern University in Evanston, IL and is employed in Human Resources at Abbott Pharmaceuticals. She is married to Mike Marasco and they have two children, Sophia and Andrea. Jeff lives in Minneapolis and currently is a web designer with Best Buy. He is married to Andrea Onell and they have two children, Ezra and Zoe.

Andrea Siegel is married to Robert Karsh and they live in Sacramento, California. Rob is a Child Psychiatrist still working parttime and Andrea was a Medical Social Worker. Andrea and Rob have two children: Julianne and Jonathan. Julianne lives in the Bay area and is married to Dan Chinn, a physician. They have two children, Olivia and Benjamin. Julie represents some jewelry lines in the Bay Area. Jonathan also attended the University of California and works as a filmmaker in the Los Angeles area. He made a documentary film, entitled, My Flesh and Blood, that received two awards Sundance music festival and appeared on HBO in 2003. He is married to Jen Axen and they have a child, Maya.

Carolyn was the third child of Rose and Clarence Siegel. Carolyn is married to Elliott Mittler. Carolyn has a Masters' Degree in Nuclear Medicine and works in a hospital in her area. Besides, her career, she is an avid horsewoman, riding and competing in horse shows in her spare time. Her husband, Elliott, has a PhD in Social Biology and teaches at a college in California. He is also an appraiser and collector of art and a national expert on earthquakes and other natural disasters. Carolyn and Elliott live in Woodland Hills, California.

Adeline Ostrin was born in 1916. She married Bernard Cohn. He was a CPA and a graduate of Northwestern University. Bernie and Adeline lived in Northbrook, a suburb of Chicago and then in Glenview. However, they traveled extensively and claimed to have been on every continent. Adeline and Bernie have two children: Donna and Larry.

Donna is married to Thomas Stone. She has a teaching degree from Northwestern University and both are graduates of Northwestern University. Tom was President of Saul Stone and Co., and Stone Commodities. They reside in Highland Park, IL. The have two children, Kimberly and Thomas, Jr. Kim is a graduate of Middlebury College in Vermont and worked for three years with Concerned Scientists in Cambridge Massachusetts, before returning to graduate school at Ann Arbor, MI. She has a MA in Public Policy and her interest is in environmental studies and protection. She is married to Ken Wexler and they have two children, Gabriel and Rafael. Tommy attended Eastman University and received an advanced music degree at the Cleveland Music Conservatory. Tommy is a violinist and plays in the Cyprus Quartet whose home is the Bay Area. The entire Stone family has a great love of skiing and can be found on the slopes of Telluride, Colorado whenever possible. Tom and Donna have been active in philanthropic organizations, with a particular interest in the fine arts.

Larry is married to Pearl Tillis. Larry is a CPA and was originally a partner in the accounting firm with his father. Larry is a graduate of DePaul University. and has practiced public accounting for 30 years. Pearl has a degree in journalism from Northwestern University. She is currently a travel consultant. Pearl and Larry have twin daughters, Beth and Lisa. All currently living in the Chicago area. Beth is a graduate of the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Beth has a BMA in Music History, Musicology, Business and a minor in piano performance. Lisa graduated with a BFA in Graphic Design from the Rhode Island School of Design

The Family of Mose Strimling

The following information was contributed by Walter Eugene (Gene) Strimling, Mose' grandson. Gene says that he was very close to his grandfather. Gene says, "almost every week from the time I was a young child, perhaps five years old, until he died when I was a young man, I went to his house for Friday evening Sabbath dinner and the evening together. We talked a lot about his parents and his childhood and young manhood."

Mose was born March 17, 1864 in Shavol, Lithuania and died February 12, 1952 in Minneapolis. Shavol is a province of Kovna. He is buried at the Minneapolis Jewish Cemetery. When Mose was about 13 years old his father died. Thereafter, Mose, his son, was not allowed to continue attending school. Mose went to England briefly and then came to the United States in 1877, settling in Detroit.

When Mose came to Detroit at the age of 13 he worked as a lumberjack. At about age 20, Mose became General Manager of a pants manufacturing plant. Henry Ford worked for Mose as a mechanic who fixed the sewing machines. Henry Ford was an anti-Semite, which is well known. Mose and Henry did not like each other. Another informant told the story that Mose could have worked for Henry Ford or gone into business with him, but he didn't because he thought he was a crazy inventor, and probably because he disliked him.

Mose moved to Phillips, Wisconsin in 1885 when he was 21 years old, and opened a general store. He did very well in business and gradually became the wealthiest person in town. He owned the general store, the hardware store and apparently much of the town. Mose was even mayor for a year. The Phillips newspaper at the time referred to Mose in front page articles as the "Prince of Phillips." He lived there until 1909.

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INTS, BRUSHES, ILS, VARNISHES,	M. Strimling & Co.	GLASS, BUILDING
ISHING TACKLE, UNS, AMMUNITION.	Hardware, Tinware and Stoves	FUMPS, FARMING IMPLEMENTS, ETC.
Tin and a Special	Sheet-Iron Work	
	PHILLIPS, WIS.,_	1901.
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Letterhead from 1901 from Mose Strimling's Hardware Store

Mose married Jennie Goldman in 1887. Jennie was born in 1864 in Russia. Her parents brought her to the United States in 1867 when she was three years old. Her family had been wealthy, and lost their property in a depression. When Mose and Jennie were married they had two dance bands and all the notables from Detroit were invited.

Mose and Jennie had five children, all boys. They were Nathan, Louis, Joseph, William and Abraham. The Strimlings were the only Jews in Phillips, WI and were apparently well liked.

As the children grew to high school age Mose decided that the high school in Phillips was not adequate for their needs. So in 1909, when he was 45 years old, Mose moved the family to Minneapolis to allow the younger boys to get a better high school education. They lived at 94 Highland Ave. N, which at that time was on a lake and considered a very nice Jewish neighborhood. Later on, that lake was filled in and became the old Farmer's Market.

Mose sold his businesses in Phillips, and went into the business of financing real estate developers in Minneapolis. He was responsible for financing the first duplexes built in the city.

He put his brother Sam into business in the Northside Lumber Yard. Jennie was in her 60s when she became ill and was an invalid for several years. Mose was a dedicated and gentle husband, and took care of her throughout her illness. She died on June 8, 1934 at the age of 70.

Nathan was the oldest son of Mose and Jennie. He was born in 1888 and died in 1966 at the age of 78. When he was a child he contracted a childhood disease that affected his hearing and he was extremely hard of hearing the rest of his life. Nathan never married. He worked for his brother Louis, in Louis' factory, Western Manufacturing Company. Nathan was a lovely person, very well liked by everyone. Nathan and Louis lived with their father in their father's house until they died.

Louis Strimling was born in 1889 and died in 1961 at the age of 72. He married Mary Cohn of Kansas City. They were divorced after a short marriage of several weeks. Louis was a watchmaker by trade. However, Mose had financed a business called Western Manufacturing Company that made topcoats and overcoats. When the business failed, Mose found himself owning it. Mose gave it to Louis. Louis ran it well and became very wealthy. Louis met Margaret Rubash who was a waitress in a local restaurant and hired her to work in his office as his assistant and bookkeeper. He wanted to marry her. However, she was gentile and Louis did not want to offend his father by marrying a non-Jew, so they never married. They were together during the day at work and had their meals and evenings together except for Friday nights when Louis would be at his Father's house for the family's Friday night dinner. After being together on the other evenings, they would return to their respective homes.

Every year the Western Manufacturing Company union negotiated a better contract for themselves. One year Louis found that the union contract gave all the profits to the employees and none to him. He closed the factory and retired. A few years later he died of a heart attack while changing a flat tire on his car. He was a kind, gentle and generous man.

Joseph was born in 1890 and died in 1934 at the age of 44. He was a pharmacist and originally owned the Western Avenue Pharmacy on James and Western Ave. in Minneapolis. Later, Western Avenue was renamed Glenwood Avenue. Joseph was described as being very bright and very studious. He had a mental breakdown and was committed to Hastings Hospital where he died.

William, the fourth son, was born in 1894 and died January 26, 1971 at the age of 76.

He wanted to be an engineer. However, his father wanted him to have a business of his own and not be dependent upon getting an engineering job from someone else. So Bill became a pharmacist. He married Minnie Bearman. His wife, Minnie, was born in 1899 in Chone, Russia and died in Palm Springs, California in 1977. She came to Minneapolis when she was 6 1/2 years old. Minnie had a brother who owned a general store in Rice, Wisconsin. Bill opened a drug store on Emerson and Plymouth. He and his younger brother, **Abraham**, became partners in 1921 and opened a second drug store together about a mile away at the corner of Morgan and Plymouth. Eventually the brothers dissolved the partnership. Bill kept the store at Morgan and Plymouth and Abe kept the store located on Emerson and Plymouth. Bill operated his store until he retired in 1960.

Bill Strimling was described as a man that everyone knew and a man with a variety of talents and interests. He loved to draw. He loved to play the piano. He was an athlete and won a metal in the flying rings. He was well read and enjoyed music and the theater. He loved to travel.

Bill and Minnie had two sons: Stanley and Bertram.

Stanley was born in 1924. He is married, a dentist and lives in California. His wife is Joan Margulies. Joan has a degree in Journalism and Education from the University of Minnesota. Stanley practiced dentistry for over thirty years in Southern California office. He has taught for many years at the University of Southern California and was President of his Dental Society. His practice has evolved into an emphasis on cosmetics, implant and periodontal prosthesis. They have three children: Margery Jane, Michael Stuart and Wendy Sue.

Margery Jane is married to Stuart Goldware, an attorney. They live in Walnut Creek, California and they have three children, Ilana Beth, Sara and Abigail. Marjery is a speech pathologist. Michael Stuart is an attorney and is married to Robin. Robin is or was a US Public Health Administrator. They live in Berkeley, CA. Another writer tells me that Michael is also interested in politics. Wendy Sue is married to Andrew Szasz. She is an attorney in San Francisco and they have a son, Aaron. Andrew is a professor at UC Santa Cruz.

Bertram Strimling married Rosalyn Wilensky. They have two children: Mark Louis, and Jody Lynn. Bertram was in the nursing home business for some time in Minneapolis and moved with his family to Palm Springs, California. I have heard from other family members that Bert owned and operated a deli-restaurant in Palm Springs.

The fifth son of Mose and Jennie was **Abraham**. Abe was born in 1896. He attended North High School in Minneapolis and was especially interested in history and football. As a member of the football team his nose was broken twice. The first time it healed a bit crooked. The second time it healed just right. Abe was a very nice, young man, handsome and popular.

He, too, wanted to become an engineer. His father, however, wanted him to have a business of his own and not be dependent upon getting an engineering job from someone else. So Abe went to the University of Minnesota to also become a pharmacist. He was too lightweight for the football team, so he specialized in gymnastics and won several medals in gymnastics competitions. In 1918 he received two degrees: Bachelor of Science degree in Pharmacy and Bachelor of Science degree in Pharmaceutical Chemistry. During World War I Abe was an airplane mechanic in the Army.

Abe married Ann Siperstein in 1920. Ann had a Bachelor of Science in Pharmaceutical Chemistry degree from the University of Minnesota. However, she was only 19 years old when she graduated from college, and you needed to be at least 21 to qualify as a licensed pharmacist, so she was not a pharmacist during the early years of their marriage.

As mentioned earlier, Abe was partners with his brother, Bill, in the drugstore business. When the partnership was dissolved, Bill kept the store at Morgan and Plymouth and Abe kept the store at Emerson and Plymouth. Abe sold his store about 1936 and purchased another drug store, Sumner Pharmacy, at the corner of Emerson and 6th Avenue (later renamed Floyd B. Olson Highway). Eventually the highway was made wider and the drug store was taken by eminent domain. Abe retired from business.

During the depression that started in 1929, Abe opened his drug store at 7 a.m. and worked alone until 11 p.m. every day of the year with no days off. He could not afford any help. So Ann studied pharmacy at home until she learned what she needed to know to become current in the field, and took the state examinations to qualify as a Registered Pharmacist. After that Ann worked at the drug store for a few hours each day while Abe went home and rested or napped.

Later in the 1940's, Abe was able to hire part time help and Ann got a part time job as a pharmacist at Dayton's Department Store in Minneapolis. She worked part time for most of the rest of her life.

One of the part time helpers at Abe's drug store was Hubert Humphrey, who later became a U.S. Senator from Minnesota and Vice President of the United States. Hubert paid his way through the College of Pharmacy at the University of Minnesota by working at part time jobs such as at Abe's drug store. Hubert and Abe became good friends and kept in touch when the Humphreys went to Washington. (Humphrey was a great friend to the Jewish community especially when he was mayor of Minneapolis. He was responsible for helping to pass legislation that put an end to the prevalent anti-Semitism in Minneapolis in the 40's. Perhaps his friendship with Abe and others on the North Side, helped to form his opinions and his philosophies.)

Abe died August 17, 1968 at age 76 of a myocardial infarction. He was a wonderful husband and father and friend. Everyone liked him.

On July 1, 1977 Ann married Louis Sachs, an attorney and lifetime friend and widow of her childhood and lifetime friend, Sara Sachs. Louis was another wonderful man, well liked by everyone.

Ann was described as brilliant, strong, articulate and beautiful. She was very popular and well liked. Ann and Abe's granddaughter, Andrea Strimling refers to Louis Sachs as her Uncle Lou. She described her grandmother and her "Uncle Lou" as wonderful together. Anne was a marvelous baker and played a lot of cards. Louis loved Minnesota geography and French.

Abe and Ann had a daughter, Eleanor Bernice "Bunny." Bunny died in 1924 of sarcoma of the kidney. They had a son, Walter Eugene "Gene," who was living in Massachusetts.

Gene Strimling attended North high School in Minneapolis, like his father and had some of the same teachers there that taught his father. Gene attended the University of Minnesota where he earned a Ph.D. in theoretical physics and mathematics and minored in electrical engineering and chemistry.

In 1945 after receiving his Masters Degree from the University of Minnesota he was offered a job as an instructor, teaching mathematics and education at the College of St. Catherine's, a Catholic parochial college for women located in St. Paul. He taught there for one year. Three years later, after taking graduate courses in theoretical physics at Columbia University in New York City, Gene returned to the University of Minnesota and taught mathematics in the Liberal Arts College.

When he was at Columbia University, he studied advanced theoretical physics under two Nobel Laureates, I.I. Rabi and Willis Lamb, Jr. He also participated in research meetings at the Princeton Institute for Advanced Study with the above two plus Albert Einstein and J. Robert Oppenheimer among others. In 1953 Gene went to work for Raytheon Company in Boston as a management trainee. He worked there until 1955 when he decided to leave Raytheon to found his own company, United States Dynamics Corporation. This company manufactures equipment to purify gases such as oxygen, nitrogen, hydrogen and argon. Primarily manufacturers of computer chips to purify the gases they use in their manufacturing processes use the equipment. Gene had patents in several fields, and is an active participant in the government's program to develop an implantable total heart. Gene had a lifetime interest in sports, particularly tennis, swimming, gymnastics, and skiing. He had a special interest in karate. He trained to become an aerobics instructor.

He was divorced from Phyllis. They had three children, Andrea Lois, was living in Hanover, NH, Jonathan Mark was living in Waltham, MA and Sharon Alexis was living in Weston, MA.

Andrea was interested in international affairs and negotiation with a special interest in environmental protection. Jonathan graduated from Northeastern with a BS in Mechanical Engineering and at one time was working at General Electric, in Lynn, MA. Sharon was living and working on Martha's Vineyard when last this was updated.

Interesting story from Andrea: She was at a conference in Switzerland in 1993 and met an older couple from Mexico City. When I introduced myself, they said that their very close friend from the synagogue in Mexico City was named Moises Strimling. I said that we must be related, and wrote a letter to Moises, which they hand delivered to him. I am enclosing in the appendix a copy of his letter to Andrea in response.

Gene lived with Denise Margaret Tennant in Weston, MA. Denise had a son, Nima. Gene and Denise met at a karate club picnic. Denise was formerly a computer database specialist and a programmer analyst for a large computer software company. She was a participant in the Free Romania Foundation TOUCH, a program to save the lives of disabled children in Romania and did volunteer work for the organization in the United States and in Romania.

The Family of Samuel Strimling

Sam was the youngest son of Merrill and Nossan. He was born in 1873 in Shavol, Lithuania, and died at age 70 in 1943. He is buried in Minneapolis, MN. Sam was very
young when he came with his mother to the United States. His brother Mose was fifteen years older than he was. Sam also had a store at one time in Athens, Wisconsin. It is believed that his brother Mose helped him acquire this store. In later years, Sam became a lumberman in Minneapolis. Sam married Esther Beletzacofsky in 1898 in Merle, Wisconsin. Esther's maiden name was later shortened to Blond.

Esther, Sam's wife, was born in 1881. She was the youngest in a family of ten children. The family was from Athens, or Merle, Wisconsin. Esther's mother was 55 years of age when she bore Esther. Some of Esther's relatives and what we know about them are: Morris, the oldest brother; Dave who had a department store in Wisconsin; Isabel, who married an attorney; Goldie who married Bill Mason (Mason being a short form of Manschevitz) who began the company known as Mason's Root Beer; and a brother William Blond who went West and had a saloon in Seattle which was entitled "Billy the Mug" a very well known and successful endeavor. He operated his saloon in the days of prospecting. He also had a boat, which went from Seattle to Nome, Alaska. Another relative of Esther's was Etta Rubvenstein Berezansky.

Esther was a creator, and a leader in her community. In 1905, Sam and Esther lived on Highland Avenue in North Minneapolis. They had a housekeeper, a Polish-Catholic immigrant girl named Katie, and Esther drove a car in those days of the horse and buggy. She was considered very "modern." She was also considered very beautiful. Esther did a great deal of charity work. She was one of the founders of the ladies' auxiliary of the Talmud Torah of Minneapolis, she taught sewing to young girls and she chaperoned dancing classes for teenagers. Esther became friendly with Rabbi Dienard who was a Reform Rabbi. After her father died, Esther stopped keeping kosher and joined the Reform movement in Judaism. No doubt, Esther considered this to be another way to be "modern" and "American."

Esther and Sam Strimling were prominent and wealthy until the depression years when the Lumber Yard failed. After Sam died, Esther went to work. She never complained and remained lovely and pleasant. She later moved to California where her son Nate was living. She married a retired dentist, Dr. Isadore Drovis, and lived happily and comfortably until a very ripe old age. Esther died in 1968 at the age of 87.

Sam and Esther had two sons, Harry (Hirshel) and Nathan (Nissan). Nate was born in 1899 and Harry was born in 1902. Nathan did not like school very much. Nathan worked in the lumber business with his Dad until the business failed. When Nathan turned 18 years old, he enlisted in the Navy. He had visions of war, but spent all eight months at the Great Lakes Training Station carrying out bodies of people who had died in the flu epidemic. Nate later went out to California and then returned to Minneapolis where he started a day old bakery business. He and Lee Libman, from St. Paul, were married in 1926. They had three children: Gerald (Gerry), Marilyn (Dolly) and David. All of the family settled in California.

Harry was more the student than his brother Nate. He went to college and obtained a degree in forestry from the University of Minnesota. He was never able to get a job in his field and Harry felt that his Jewish religion contributed to this problem. Harry graduated college in March 1928.

During the temperance period, Harry's cousins, Hy and Bill Myers made money collecting, washing and re-labeling bottles for bootleg whiskey. Harry Strimling worked with them, going around to hotels and various places and collecting the "dead soldiers." The bottles were then put into big tubs and the labels soaked off.

After graduating college, Harry went into the insurance business. He sold insurance across the country with Max Segal. They made it to New York City where Harry became very ill with cerebral spinal meningitis. His friend in New York, Joe Graits, was very helpful in getting proper medical care for Harry. Eventually Harry came back to Minneapolis where he spent more time recovering. He met his wife, Lee Lurie from St. Paul, through Max Segal's wife. He and Lee were married in 1930. Harry went into the day old bakery business just like his brother, and he did well for about nine years. Then new laws were passed, prohibiting anyone but the bakery from selling day old bakery goods. Harry then went into the furniture business. It was called Laurie Furniture. In his senior years, Harry worked for Marvy Beauty Supply. Harry and Lee had two children: Nancy and Richard. Nancy married Stanley Skadron in 1956, a veterinarian in West St. Paul and Richard married Elizabeth Katz in 1968 and they live in St. Paul. Richard was a factory representative for Enro Shirts and since 1980 has been in commercial real estate. Liz is a director and teacher at the St. Paul Talmud Torah. He and his wife have one daughter, Allison, born in 1974. Nancy and Stan have four children: Javne, Steven, Thomas and Michael. Tom followed in his father's footsteps and became a veterinarian and Michael became a dentist.

The Family of Fanny Strimling Myers

Fanny was a sister to Mose and Sam. She was born in 1868 (or 1871) and died in 1922, at the age of 55. She married David Myers on October 12, 1891. David was born in 1864 and died in 1930. They had a bakery called Myers Bakery. It was later called People's Bakery, a landmark in the 20's and 30's in North Minneapolis. Fanny is remembered for being the "mother of everyone" for her kindness and for her big and generous heart. She would take in and feed anyone that was hungry, even the bums off the railroads.

Fanny and Dave had four children: Nellie, William, Bessie and Hymen (Hy).

Nellie was the oldest child, born in Hudson Wisconsin. She was married to Abe Garon who was born in 1879 in Vilnus, Lithuania. Abe had a jewelry store, Garon Bros. Jewelers, in Duluth. They later moved to Los Angeles. Nellie died in 1971. Abe died in 1951. Nellie and Abe Garon had three children: Myrrle, Bernice and Milton.

Myrrle Annette Garon was born in Duluth. She was married to Alan Klein who she later divorced. Myrle graduated from the University of California at Berkeley in 1934. She had a clothing lab for Cooperative Extension in which she made teaching aids, demonstration material for use in all adult and 4H clothing projects in the State. She retired from the University of California at Davis in 1967. Since her retirement, she enjoyed altering and restyling garments for others.

Myrrle has two daughters, Lynne Garon Klein and Ann Garon Klein Machado. Lynne is married to Ernest O. Therrioult. Their second daughter, Ann Garon Klein, was previously married to Ernest Machado and had two sons, Robert and Christopher.

Bernice is the second child of Nellie and Abe Garon. Bernice was born June 20, 1915 in Duluth. She was married three times. Her first husband was Herbert Ross. She had two children from that marriage: Dale and Susan. Bernice's second husband was Marvin Meyer. From that marriage there is another daughter, Patty Meyer. Bernice's third husband was Percy Straus. Dale Ross Levy was married and divorced and has two sons, Adam and Lauren. Dale Levy had an interior decorator's business for several years before she decided to go into real estate. Patty Meyer was married and divorced and has a son Michael Walton. Patty Walton designs and makes glass windows.

The third child of Nellie and Abe Garon was Milton (Buddy) Garon, born in 1918 in Duluth. He is remembered by some of the family for wanting to be a cowboy. Milton served in the army from the time he was seventeen until after the WW II and then continued in the reserve. He went inactive as a Captain. He worked as a purchasing agent, purchasing electronic parts for a wholesale electronic firm. Milton was married to Shirley Tabic and they had two sons - Robert and Richard. Richard is an graphic artist and is married to Lucinda. Robert is an engineer. Robert is married to Mary and they have two children, Robin Garon and Jeffrey Garon. All of Nellie's family settled in California.

William, or Bill as he was called, was born in 1896 and died in 1963. He was married to Edith Levine in 1922. Edith died in 1984. They owned the Marna Lee Dress Shop in Minneapolis for 47 years (1929-1976). Bill drowned in a tragic boating accident in 1963 in Tahiti. Edith carried on the shop with the help of her son, Donald. Don sold the dress shop in 1976 and moved with his wife and two daughters to Northfield, MN. Bill and Edith had two children: a daughter, Frayda and a son, Donald. Frayda was an elementary school

teacher and a book editor. She was married to Melvin S. Cooper. Melvin was a high school teacher and a school counselor. They had a son, John D. Cooper. He is a Rabbi in Melbourne, Australia. Frayda also lives in Australia. Frayda was named for her grandmother, Fanny. Fanny died a few months before Frayda was born. Donald married Rosalyn Sher. Rosalyn and Donald were married in Virginia, Minnesota in 1958. They had two daughters, Elisabeth Myers, and Susan Myers.

An Article in the American Jewish World from 1995:

NATIVE MINNESOTAN RECEIVES AUSTRALIAN AWARD FOR SENIORS University of Minnesota alumnus and Australian resident, Frayda Myers Cooper was recently presented with a 1995 Queensland State Premier's Award for Seniors. She was one of 26 winners from 308 nominations.

Cooper and her son, Rabbi John D. Cooper, have been living in southeastern Queensland for the past decade. Together they initiated and coordinated the University of the 3rd Age Movement throughout Queensland. U3As are self-help learning networks for third-agers -- retirees.

The awards were presented to "older Queenslanders who have rendered outstanding service to the community in which they live and who continue to act as role models for people of all ages to follow," according to the letter from the Minister for Family and Community Services informing Cooper that she was one of the recipients.

Frayda Myers Cooper is the daughter of Edith Levine Myers and Bill Myers, for 47 years the owners of the Marna Lee Dress Shop at Lake and Hennepin Avenue in Minneapolis. She graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1945, where she was the student director of Hillel. She later received her master's degree from the U of M's School of Education 1967. She taught in St. Louis Park for many years, was a Minneapolis Talmud Torah student and Adath Jeshurun confirmand. She recently moved into the B'nai B'rith Parents Home in Sydney, Australia.

Rabbi Cooper, incidentally, was a Temple Israel confirmand and Bar Mitzva -- "the first Temple Israel graduate to complete his rabbinical studies at HUC-JIR." He graduated from Blake School in 1965 and Brandeis University in 1969. He also student at MIT's Sloan School of Management prior to commencing rabbinic studies at HUC-JIR in Jerusalem in 1973. He does not serve an Australian congregation on a full time basis, but "continues to assist smaller Jewish communities throughout Queensland and northern New South Wales."

Bessie, the third child of Fanny and Dave Myers, was born November 9, 1894 in Minneapolis and died in August, 1968. She was married to Alex Saper, an attorney, who was born November 4, 1890 in New York City and died in August 1958. They were married in 1919 in Kansas City and lived in Minneapolis for several years before moving to Jonesboro, Arkansas. Bessie is remembered as being an extrovert.

Bessie and Alex had one daughter, Marna Dorothy. Marna married Abe Blindman who was also formerly from Minneapolis. They were married in 1950 and lived in Jonesboro, Arkansas beginning in 1956. Abe and Marna had three children, Debbie Anne Scott and David Blindman. Debbie married to Ronald Lazarov and they had two children, Adam and Amy, and were living in Memphis, Tennessee. Scott was formerly married and had one child Jake David. Scott was living in Jonesboro. David was living in Memphis, Tennessee. He was a manufacturer of wooden beverage cases for the soft drink industry. Marna was a WAC in WW II and has had her own boutique in Jonesboro.

The fourth child of Fanny and Dave was **Hymen (Hy) Myers**. Hy was born in 1898. His wife was Dorothy Cohen from Winnipeg. Dorothy was born in 1912. They had no children.

There is a strong artistic bent in the family. Grandmother Fanny Myers won a first prize for a quilt she made. Aunt Nellie and Aunt Bess were very talented in knitting and tapestry and Aunt Nellie did some beautiful weaving. Her daughter, Myrrle Klein, graduated as a fine arts major from University of California at Berkeley and worked in the Home Economics department designing clothing and making up special clothing kits for the 4H program through the University of California (Davis) until she retired. Dale Levy had an interior decorator's business for several years before she decided to go into real estate. Patty Walton designs and makes glass windows. Richard Garon is a graphics artist.

The Family of Schmuel

The Strimling brother, **Schmuel**, was a big transporter of goods in Shavol, Lithuania, during the time before there were trains. After trains took over his business, he "occupied himself with lime," did business, as they say.

Baruch Chaim. the son of Schmuel, born on April 9, 1865, came to Sweden in 1905 from Lithuania and died in 1919 at 54 years of age. **Baruch Chaim** married Sara Frida Nachemson, who was born in 1866 and died in 1939. They had three children, **Mauritz**, **Henny and David**. Shoul (Mauritz) was 5 years old when he went to Sweden with his mother and sister, Henny, to join their father, **Baruch Chaim**. The only child born in Sweden was **David**. Mauritz had two children: Ronnie and Susanne. Henny had one daughter, Elsie Werbelowsky, who was the daughter of Maurice's first marriage. That family moved to Israel where Henny's son in law worked for the Histadrut after the family moved to Israel is 1949.

David married Signe Schwartzberg. Signe lived in Lund, where many of the Jews from Poland and Lithuania settled. They had three children, Jan, Sivand and Lena. Jan's Hebrew name is Chaim Baruch. Jan was married twice and has four children, Emil Warginger, Jonas Strimling, Pontus Strimling, and Tove Kattstrom. Jan was a professor in Sweden, and the source of this information. Siv's Jewish name is Sore Feude. Her married name is Siv Holmgren and she has two children, Caroline Lindstrom and Johan. Caroline has a son, David. The third child of David Strimling is Lena. From Lena: Her married name is Lena Borenstein, although she is divorced from her husband. Lena is a dentist, living in Molndal when last I heard from her. She worked at the University of Goteborg. Lena was on the Faculty of Odontology in the Pedodontic department where she taught and had patients as They had a daughter, Henny. Lena's Jewish name is Liebe Taube. David died in well. 1970. David worked for the Jewish Community in Malmo as an ombudsman from 1945 until Before that he was a lawyer. There is a special fund in his name at the Jewish he died. Community in Malmo. His memory is highly commemorated by the Jews who came from the Holocaust camps to Malmo in 1945 and 1946 and also by the Polish Jews coming to Sweden in 1968, 1969 and 1970. He is mentioned in the book: Who's Who in World Jewry."

When David came to Sweden, the family settled in Vaxjo, a small city in southern Sweden. He first worked as a fur dealer. Henny Strimling worked with her father David in the fur dealing business.

The descendents of Mauritz and David are now the only ones named Strimling with their families in Sweden. Baruch Chaim apparently had other siblings who did not come to Sweden and were supposed to have moved to Dansig, Germany or Poland. Jan Strimling believes that a brother of Baruch Chaim's changed his name to Steinberg and settled in South Africa. Many Lithuanian Jews settled in the south of Sweden.

A LETTER AND INFORMATION ON THE SWEDISH BRANCH OF THE STRIMLINGS

A letter from Jan Strimling, Sweden to Joel Strimling, Ann Arbor, Michigan May 28, 1992 (excerpts): Mr. Joel Strimling:

My name is Jan Strimling. I received the letter you directed to the Jewish Community in Malmo. The community forwarded the letter to Stockholm, to my sister Siv, who, in her turn, forwarded the letter to me.

I've recently been in contact with Mr. John Drayman of Montrose, California. He phoned me in order to talk about Sore Freude Nachemsohn, who is my grandmother (d. 1939) and a sister of his great-grandmother.

My father, born in 1907, died in 1970. He worked as a first clerk, the title was ombudsman, at the Jewish Community in Malmo from 1945 till his death. Before that he had worked as a lawyer, after finishing his studies in Swedish Law at the University of Lund. There is a special fund in his memory in the Jewish Community in Malmo. His memory is highly commemorated by the Jews coming from the Holocaust camps to Malmo in 1945 and 1946 and also by the Polish Jews coming to Sweden in 1968, 1969 and in 1970.

My father had one brother and one sister. Both of them were born prior to the arrival in Sweden. His father, Baruch Chaim Strimling, and the family settled in Vaxjo, a small city in southern Sweden. He worked as a fur dealer. According to the family tree I received from the USA, Baruch Chaim was one of Schmuel Strimling's two known sons. The other son, who took the name Steinberg, settled in South Africa. I wonder about the reasons for settling in South Africa and Sweden, when there were member of the Strimling family in the USA. But many Lithuanian Jews settled in the south of Sweden.

My aunt, Henny Strimling, was in contact with relatives in South Africa and in the USA. She worked with fur dealing as her father did. She was married, but had no children of her own. Henny Strimling died in 1955.

My uncle, Mauritz Strimling, was married to Ragnhild Tarschs, who visited Strimlings in Israel. Mauritz and Ragnhild had two daughters, Ronnie, married Abramsson and Susanne, married Movscheson. Ronnie has two sons. Susanne works part time at the Jewish Community in Stockholm.

My eldest sister Siv lives in Stockholm and works as a guidance counselor at the nationwide State Employment Bureau. She has two children, a son and a daughter. My niece has given birth to a child of the fourth generation of the Strimling family in Sweden. It's a son and his name is David.

My second sister Lena is living in Gottenburg. She's a dentist specializing in child odontology. Lena is an elected member of the Council of the Jewish Community in Gothenburg. She has earlier, during three years, been responsible for educational matters in the Jewish Community. She has a daughter by the name of Henny.

I have three sons and a daughter. My daughter, the apple of my eye, is only one and a half years old. I work as a teacher in reeducation of adults. I teach Swedish, Mathematics and Social Sciences.

I hope that my letter has given you some facts on the "Swedish branch" of the Strimling family. My sisters and I would be grateful, if you could give us similar information about yourself and about the Strimlings in the USA.

Yours sincerely,

Jan Strimling

STRIMLINGS WHO ARE ALSO FROM SHAVOL AND NEARBY SHTETLS

There are many Strimlings who I believe are all related, but I am unable to make the exact connection. Perhaps they are descendents of other siblings of Nossan and Schmuel, or perhaps a generation before that or siblings of Chaim Baruch (who settled in Sweden). Perhaps someone reading this has the answer?

The following is some additional information about the Steinberg/Strimling family:

This information comes from Eric Strimling of Oakland, California. Eric's grandfather, Arthur Steinberg, was born in 1912 and was married to Edith Wexler who was born in 1916. It was at Ellis Island that the name was changed from Strimling to Steinberg. Eventually some of the family changed the name back to the original name of Strimling. Arthur Steinberg was a world-renowned geneticist who worked at Case Western Reserve in Cleveland before retiring. The family of Edith, was originally from Katargrod, Ukraine in the mid 1800's. Edith was a successful actress in regional theater. Arthur and Edith had two children: Arthur Strimling and Jean Strimling. Jean had two children, Jennifer Schengili and Erika Schengili. Jennifer is described as a world traveler who went to Belgium to study veterinary medicine and blacksmithing. Ericka worked in commercial film and motion pictures in the technical end and lived in Toronto. Arthur Strimling, son of Arthur and Edith Steinberg is involved in theatre in New York City. He has two children, Eric Strimling, who has supplied this information, and Ethan Strimling. Eric is a carpenter and his wife is a sign language interpreter and was a fulltime mother. Eric and family live in California.

A version of the name change that Arthur said was told to him by his father: Baruch Aaron, Americanized to Bernard, arrived in the United States after his brothers had already changed the name to Steinberg from Strimling. This branch of the family settled in California. They became wealthy and "Americanized." When they met his grandfather at Ellis Island they were confronted by an orthodox Jew with all the accouterments of an old world orthodox Jew. The grandfather had been a butcher in Lithuania. His relatives advised him to take an American name if he planned to open a shop in America. The name suggested was Steinberg.

Another family member, Susanne Strimling, contributed the following: Her grandparents were Theodore and Esther Strimling. Theodore was born in Lithuania. Susanne's father was Joseph Strimling. At the time of this contribution, Susanne was living in Brussels Belgium (short term she said) and was from Los Angeles. She was employed in international marketing and finance. Her Brussels assignment was to assist companies in cross-border strategic alliances and European market entry. Other information indicates more relatives from this branch: Hilda Strimling Silton, sister to Theodore, Blaine Strimling, wife of Theodore, and Gene and Suzanne children of Blaine and Theodore. Possibly Theodore had a brother Abraham. Theodore Strimling studied to become a Rabbi, but later went into pharmacutical studies. He also became a large supporter and benefactor of the State of Israel. Theodore Strimling is supposedly listed in Who's Who in American Jewry.

Appendix

The Poor Jews' Temporary Shelter Database

Search results:

11 records matching your criteria (Strimling, All destinations, *, from 29/5/1896 to 10/7/1914) were found:

Return to search page

Back to the main page

Select	Surname	Fore name	Register date	Gender	Age	Birth place	Occupation	From	То
	Strimling	Ch	8/17/1898		44	Kowno	tailor	Bremen	Africa
	Strimling	Н	8/17/1898		14	Kowno	tailor	Bremen	Africa
	Strimling	А	8/17/1899		22	Kowno	tailor	Bremen	Africa
	Strimling	Ch.	8/17/1899		44	Kowno	tailor	Bremen	Africa
	Strimling	Н	8/17/1899		14	Kowno	tailor	Bremen	Africa
	Strimling	М	8/17/1899		49	Kowno	agriculturist	Bremen	Africa
	Strimling	В	2/2/1900		36	Kowno	dealer	Africa	Native Town
	Strimling	Ch., Miss	3/25/1908	f	22	Kovno	none	Libau via Hull	Africa
	Strimling	Feivel	9/11/1913		30	Shavli	dealer	Bremen	Africa
	Strimling	Maryem	9/11/1913		1	Shovli	none	Bremen	Africa
	Strimling	Selde	9/11/1913		22	Shavli	none	Bremen	Africa

Show more details for selected persons

Letter below is from the Moises Strimling, Mexico City:

MEXICO CITY FEBRUARY 16 1994

HODEAR ANDREASC IN ANT HONE ITA TO THE ITE

IWAS PLEASED TO GET YOUR LETTER FROM THE KAHAN'S. LERINE PHONE I WISH THAT BY SOM SORT OF LUCK OR DESTINY I CAN FIND HORE STRIMING RELATIVES TO

MY NAME IS MOISES (MOISHE) SON OF YACOB, GRAN) SON OF ZUSM STRIMLING, MY FATHER WAS BORN IN 1900, IN A SMALL TOW CALLES

GRUZT IN LITUANIA (EUROPE). (SOMY GRAND FATHER ZUSMAN STRIMLING WAS MARRIED TO GITA ZAPKAITZ, THEY HAD 5 CHILDREN. LEON, ISRAEL, YACOB, SARA AND BORUS. THE EL)ER SON LEON NIGRATE) TO SOUTHAPRICA, THE REST MIGRATE) TO MEXICO BETWEEN THE YEARS 1923 TO 1933. PER

MOG THEY ALL JIE IN MELLED CITY.

I WAS BORN IN MEXICO RITY IN 1936, I HAVE AN GLDER BROTH ZUSMAN AND A YOUNGER SISTER ITA, WE ARE IN COUSINS, MY UNCL. ISRAEL HA) 5 CHILDREN MY ANT SARA HA) & CHILDREN AN BORUS H. 2 CHIL)REN. WE ALL WERE BORN IN MEXIED, WHERE WE ACTUAL. LIFE WITH WIFES SONS AN GRANJONS WEIRE A PRETTY BIG FAMILY. I HAVE TALKED TO MY COUSIN LEON, AND HE TOLD HE HE'S SOT

THE STRINLING FAMILY TREE STARTING FROM 1900, HE PROMISE DO MENER

TO FIN) IT AND TO GIVE IT TOME .

1. WE 341 216 6

JCAN TELL BY YOUR LETTER, THAT YOUR PARENTS WERE 896066 BORN IN THE U.S. FROM WICH EUROPEAN COUNTRY DID YOUR ____ ANCESTORS COME FROM. IF THE ARE FROM LITUANIA, WE'RE RELATE. 1105 FOR SURE.

JULL LOVE TO KEEP TRACK OF OUR BEGININGS, IT WAS WERY NICE TO HEAR FROMYOU AND TO KNOW THAT THERE ARE STRIML. IMANY PARTS OF THE WORD.

A paragraph from a letter dated July 24, 1994 written by Moises Strimling

"My father was a Hajam and Moel in our community and exercised this important responsibility until 1952.the only one to respond (request for more information) was my cousin Leon who gave a compilation sent to him from South Africa by a relative H.H. Preretzman which contains information on the origins and ties of Strimlings and Preretzmans. As you may notice many of them changed their names from "Strimling" to "Steinberg" just as it is mentioned in the Strimling Family History.

The letter goes on to say that Moises and Zusman Strimling are brothers, living in Mexico City. They also have a condo in St. Petersburg that they use three or four times a year. The two brothers used to be in the doll and toy factory business. The brothers have been business partners all of their lives, and currently own a small factory that produces shoe paint, leather dies and other maintenance products for shoes and leather".

The Jewish Community of Siauliai

This is the story of the Jewish Community of Siauliai, in Lithuania, known as Shavli in Russian, Schaulen in German and Shavel or Shavl by the Jews.

Jewish settlement in the city of Shavel began at a much later period than the settlement in other cities in Lithuania and Zamot. The reason why the community was not an old established one like the other communities is unknown. There is a legend which was told in Shavel as follows: Until approximately the year 5500 (1740) the city of Shavel was a village, and generally Jews were not permitted to live there. One day the Christian residents of this village were bringing a big bell for their church to the village. The bell fell into the river and they could not get it out. A Jew risked his life, the honored Reb Zev Nurok Ka"Katz who had special permission from King Jan the Third in 1681 to live in Shavel, together with all his household. He got the bell out of the water. They said that they would give him whatever payment he requested and he answered that he didn't request anything for himself, just that they would let his brothers, the Jews, live here. This they did. Soon many Jews from the surrounding area collected in Shavel and founded a small community. The honored Reb Zev Nurok was killed. One of his children was the great leader Reb Israel Nurok (died in 1796) who was very famous in the whole region and by whose efforts the Jewish cemetery was founded in 1748. Before the Jews were allowed to settle in Shavel and to buy a field for a cemetery, they buried their dead in the nearby towns of Shaulenai and Lygumai, which already had Jewish communities. The first to be buried in the new cemetery was a youth, Gershon the son of Simcha, who came from another town and died in 1749. From then until the First World War, on the day of his death, a memorial candle was lit and the prayer of kaddish was said for him in the Kloiz of Gemilas Chesedim shel Emes (the synagogue of true loving kindness towards the dead) which was burnt down in the First World War. Around the year 1749 a fine wooden synagogue was built, with windows high in the walls, shining with color, with a holy ark made by an artist. By the south wall a big brass menorah (candelabra) stood on a cup-shaped base. The reason that the synagogue was not built of stone was that the city of Shavel was under the supervision of Keidaniai and it was necessary to get the agreement of the Rabbi there. He would allow only a wooden synagogue to be built. This was because the city of Keidaniai was the regional center for the committee of the communities (Vaad HaKehilos) and the city of Shavel was then at the beginning of it's settlement. It had few people who did not have sufficient resources for the great expense of a stone building, and the Rabbi thought that this situation would continue for some time. Therefore, he would only let them build a wooden building. They prayed there until 1881 when it was shut by the government until 1889 when repairs had been carried out. It existed until it was burnt down during the First World War.

The small Jewish community suffered greatly from the invasion of the Swedes between 1710 and 1715.

The local headquarters of Napoleon's army was in the little town of Koltinian, near Rasein, close to Shavel. Shimon Cohen relates a story that General MacDonald wanted to see a Jewish wedding and the community notables acceded to his request. They found a bride and groom and conducted a wedding ceremony under a Chupa (wedding canopy) in the presence

of the French generals. They gave the happy couple many presents. One of the descendants of the couple was living in Shavel in 1938, known as "Leibtshe Bonapart". In 1831 the Poles rose up against the Russian government. Most of Lithuania was conquered easily because the Russian army was still stationed on the Turkish border after the Russian-Turkish war of 1828. Only in Shavli were there 3,000 Russian soldiers, who were overwhelmed by 15,000 soldiers of the uprising after hard fighting. The conquerors first act was to take Jewish property and to hang those suspected of being against the Polish government. Then the Russian General Shirman came from Ponevich to put down the uprising in Shavel, and the Jews were caught between the two forces, and were killed regardless of who they supported. In these times a terrible thing happened. A group of Jews travelling from Shavel for a wedding celebration were killed by insurgent soldiers. This murder was written about in "Toldos HaYehudim beLita-Zamot" (history of the Jews in Lithuania and Zamot) by Lipman, Volume A. The famine of 1843-5 In 1843-5 there was a terrible famine in the whole of Russia. This famine had a great influence on the Shavel Jewish community. Rain fell unceasingly from the summer of 1843 until the month of Kisley, making it impossible to harvest crops and sow for the new year. The following year there was no rain at all during the summer and the harvest failed. The Russian government loaned the citizens money to buy food. However, the Jewish community was unable to repay its loans to the government, together with the head tax and interest. The Jews sank into poverty and as a consequence many natives of Shavel left for other towns, and the Jewish community was greatly reduced. In the second uprising of 1863 the city of Shavel was once again a military headquarters, but a less important one than in the first uprising. However, there were still quite a few Jewish victims. The Russians won and the Poles suffered a great defeat. The Polish rebels were hanged on a small hill at the edge of the city going towards Kurshan, where there are graves of German soldiers who fell in the First World War. At the beginning of 1864 the uprising was quieted, but the situation of the Jews got much worse. At that time the writer Yehuda Leib Gordon was a teacher in the Hebrew school in Shavel. In his memoirs he states that he was saved twice from death during the revolt. He was travelling from Shavel to Kovno and a friend in Shavel gave him a letter to take to the county minister in Kovno. On the way he slept at an inn in Baisagola when two rebels appeared and started to search the rooms. They wanted to enter the room where he was sleeping but the innkeeper blocked their way and promised that he knew his guest well. When he was on the way home from Kovno and was close to Shavel he was arrested by a platoon from the Russian army who thought that he was a spy. However, he managed to escape.

Above contributed by Dave Honig

SOUTH AFRICAN BRANCH Excerpt from a letter from Larry Rubin:

He understands that there were two Strimling families in Shavel. Those who were butchers and those who were farmers. He believes he is descended from the farmers, since Masha (his grandmother?) always spoke of going to live in the country on the dairy farms where she learned to make cream cheese homemade style. She also said that her family were millers. Of course the family lore is that Strimling is the name of a little fish found in the Baltic Sea and eaten like Dutch herring fresh with onions. His great grandfather came to South Africa in 1886 and lived in Oudshoorn, which he believes is ostrich farming country. Masha was born in Shavel with two sisters: Annie and Becky. They and their mother, Leah Rachel Smith from Weksna (a small rural shtetl near Shavel, came to South Africa when Chaim Lipper returned to Shavel to fetch his family. Apparently not all the children came and he left Faivel Strimling in Shavel. Feivel was known to the family as Faiver which was perhaps a spelling mistake or perhaps a mistake in pronunciation. An interesting side note is that also traveling with them from Lithuania was a nurse who was called Nana and lived with the family in Knysna until she died.

AUSTRALIAN BRANCH:

This contribution came from Peter Cullman: Cyril Steinberg (changed name from Strimling) found his uncle David in a DP camp in 1948 in Germany. David had survived the Holocaust. Cyril helped him, his wife and his three children, Hinda, Eliahu, and Beinash to immigrate to Israel. Some of them still carry the Strimling name and have multiplied there.