ISHSF Newsletter



May 20, 2007 Third Edition

Our mission is to restore the synagogue to its original condition and to create an endowment for maintaining it as a museum and events center; open to people of all faiths, cultures and nationalities, so that they may gain insight into the lives of the men and women who passed through these doors.

Have you been inside the historic JCRS synagogue? Walk into this sacred little

building and you can hear thousands of prayers echoing around the sky-blue dome ceiling. Prayers for deliverance from the awful disease, prayers for their families, still far away across the country. Prayers for the strength to carry on. Denver and its surrounding communities would not be the wonderful place it is today if it hadn't been for the courageous men and women who came here to recover from tuberculosis. Please give whatever you can to help us save this beautiful place. The world should know and be inspired by the story of JCRS. (Photo below is from 1929.)



The SANATORIUM of THE JEWISH CONSUMPTIVES' RELIEF SOCIETY, DENVER COLORADO, 1929

Sunday Evening at the San

Please join us at a Benefit Concert, Sunday, July 15th, at 7:00 p.m., Mary Harris Auditorium, on the campus of the Rocky Mountain College of Art + Design, 1600 Pierce St., Lakewood, CO.

It is sure to be a lovely summer evening in Lakewood, and the music, from Los Lantzmun, is sure to be enjoyable.

When Dr. Charles Spivak (nicknamed Papa Spivak by some of the patients at JCRS) was in charge of the Sanatorium, he cared for their souls and hearts as well as their bodies. Music, poetry readings, and other entertainment were always a part of the total experience at the San, as the patients called it. We will recreate one of these special evenings for you in the Mary Harris Auditorium on the historic JCRS campus.

Los Lantzmun is a Colorado original. A critically acclaimed seven-piece band, they perform a toe-tapping fusion of Eastern European, Mediterranean, and Middle Eastern music, sung in Hebrew, Yiddish, English, and Ladino (a Judeo-Spanish dialect) and fueled by driving percussion.

The name "Lantzmun" comes from Yiddish meaning "someone from your town," or "kinsman." And they are--Hal Aqua, Alan Greenberg, Sherman Jacobs, Naviella Lapidot, Michael Mendelson, Miriam Rosenblum, and Ira Sherman are all Colorado locals.

The 8th Notes, the wonderful singing group from the Hebrew Educational Alliance, will open the show.

Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$10 for children under 12. RSVP to Alison Greengard (agreengard@prodigy.net or 303-985-0556) or Jennifer Sylman (sylman6@aol.com or 303-949-8407.)



"Papa" Spivak, 1920

Grant Request for \$106,000 Submitted to Colorado Historical Society

I he foundation is awaiting word from the Colorado Historical Society on its request for funding of the first phase of the renovation. With the architectural drawings and specifications complete, a formal grant request was submitted earlier this year. The foundation has raised approximately \$100,000 in funds from our generous donors. Since the complete renovation is estimated to cost around

\$500,000, we still have a ways to go. However, the plan is to begin on the outside, first repairing the roof and the bricks, and continue the work into the interior, as funds allow.

Preservation of Patient Tent

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With the help of the City of Lakewood's Heritage Center, the Patient Tent will soon be back in the condition it was in 1926. Winifred Ferrill, Historic Preservationist and Lead Curator at the Heritage Center, has



determined the exterior of the tent was originally painted grey, with dark green trim. The interior was a light, minty green. These same colors will be used to repaint the tent.

The tent, originally manufactured by the Tucker Tent Company of Denver, is believed to be the only surviving TB patient tent in the Rocky Mountain area. These tents were used at JCRS and other

FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

TENTS.

All our patients, as well as the employees, from Superintendent to cook, are housed in tents. The tents are of the most modern and up-to-date construction, both from the point of comfort and of hygiene. The pattern was selected after a most careful examination of the different varieties on the market, and represents the conclusion of sanatoriums experienced in this line of work.

The frame is made of selected lumber; the four sides of the tent are boarded up 32 inches with three-fourths-inch drop siding, while the floor is made of Texas quarter-sawed pine. Each tent has a screen door and two windows. All window openings and ventilating holes are covered with wire netting. In order to render the temperature of the tent equable, a second cover, or "fly," runs ten inches above and parallel to the roof, and extends one foot over the edge of the tent, thus allowing free circulation of air all over the roof. A special feature of this tent is the ingenious system of ventilation, which is effected in three ways—by a cupola in the roof, by two awning frames in front of the tent, which may be raised or lowered, and by side wall vents above the floor of the tent.

This system of ventilation removes at once the vitiated air, and keeps the tent cool and comfortable. Each tent is furnished with an iron bed, woolen mattress, pillow, four pair of blankets, sheets, pillow slips, table, chair, rocker, wash-stand, chamber set, mirror, rug, rack, hot water bag, tooth and nail brushes, comb and drinking cup. The cost of each tent is \$75, or the cost of the fifteen tents erected during 1904 is \$1,125, on which \$906.40 were paid, leaving on the first of the year an indebtedness of only \$218.60.

The furnishings of the tents, which amount to about \$750, are all paid for, of which, however, the Society paid only \$442.02, the sanatoriums such as the National Jewish Hospital, Lutheran Hospital, and Swedish Hospital. It gives one pause to think about the invalids sleeping in the unheated tents all through the Colorado winter. The photo above and the page to the left are both taken from the 1905 JCRS Annual Report.

Plans are underway to re-dedicate the tent as the Judelovitz Family Tent, in memory of Avram Judelovitz and his sons who erected many of the first tents and buildings at JCRS, as well as to honor the ongoing help of the present-day Judd family.

To arrange a tour of the synagogue, please call 303-987-1316. We request a minimum \$150 donation for tours.

The following article, written by Jennifer Sylman, appeared in the *Rocky Mountain News*, Your Hub section, on 2/12/2007.

The sun was shining on a sacred place

The weather was perfect for the Jewish Consumptives' Relief Society (JCRS) Isaac Solomon Historic Synagogue Foundation (ISHSF) fundraising event. This early Lakewood site of the JCRS was a self-sufficient 150-acre sanatorium providing for the care of indigent immigrants from the east coast, suffering with tuberculosis, the "white plague." Dr. **Charles Spivak** welcomed all patients, regardless of race, religion or prognosis. It was home to more than 10,000 residents, many of whom went on to become prominent, well-known families in the area. The Isaac Solomon Synagogue, a house of worship, was constructed and used by the tuberculosis patients. The synagogue is now in disrepair and is awaiting renovation.



The fundraising event, "Saving a Sacred Place," was held on Sunday, February 11th, at the Rocky Mountain College of Art + Design, (RMCAD), 1600 Pierce in Lakewood, just north of Colfax. A variety of activities took place from 1 - 4 p.m. In the Mary Harris Auditorium, RMCAD students presented stories and images based on lives of tuberculosis patients.

This was followed by recognizing family members of patients who were treated at JCRS. Also acknowledged were relatives whose ancestors were dedicated to building and supporting this institution. In the Rotunda, RMCAD students contributed their original artwork and books for sale to benefit the synagogue.



There was music by Klezmer V'Od and the 8th Notes singing group. Colorful, hand-dyed silk scarves were donated for sale at the benefit and there was a book signing and sale by a children's book author. Tours of the synagogue were

given to guests.

There were many volunteers

who made the event possible and among them, a youth group, the Denver Community Chessed Coalition, who volunteered throughout the entire afternoon. It was a splendid, sunny day with a wonderful turnout. The Isaac Solomon Historic Synagogue Foundation will continue its efforts to raise funds for the restoration of this little synagogue, so rich in



history. Once renovated, the Isaac Solomon Synagogue will serve as a life-cycle events center and museum. Further information is available at the website <u>www.IsaacSolomonSynagogue.org</u> or by calling (303) 987-1316.

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If we have omitted anyone, please forgive us, and let us know so we can correct it in the next issue.

JCRS Isaac Solomon Historic Synagogue Foundation www.IsaacSolomonSynagogue.org

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