

# Joseph Schattil

## Larger Than Life

by Bernice Schwartz

I believe that my grandfather, Joseph Schattil, would feel happy to know that his legacy is strong and living. He was a wonderful man: always singing, having Sunday picnics under the Masasa tree near a river; later playing cards and having heated discussion about politics with friends in a little town called Que Que (Rhodesia).

My grandfather used to ranch and skin cattle and sell the hides. He built homes by his own hand like a great craftsman. Once a week he had an "indaba" when all his employees and their families sat around in a circle and discussed any problems. He would offer advice.



Joseph Schattil and Family l to r Raphael (Ralph), Alexander, Ida, Dina, Lena (Leslie), Joseph.

Grandpa was a great shot. Once I saw him shoot a cobra between the eyes. Grandpa was a gourmand. We regularly had Guinea fowl - venison, pheasant and wonderful beef for dinner. I remember that he would stand in rivers with a big pan looking for gold.

He loved the cinema, dances and took me to every fancy dress. I was once a Hawaiian girl and remember my grandfather getting palm mats unraveled for the skirt and my Grandmother, Dinah, getting darker from the chemist to tint my skin.

I remember fondly Grandpa driving down a road near the farm he screeched the car to a halt, jumped out, and stripped of his clothes down to his underwear. He found a locust in his pants. Locusts were a constant theme: sometimes the skies turned black with swarms of these insects as if it were about to thunder. Grandpa would quick get the workers to beat drums and make fires to prevent them from settling on the crops.

Bees made life sweet. Grandpa harvested the honey, boiling and taking off the wax. He loved animals and we always were surrounded by dogs, cats and many times, baby bucks. We also had a monkey for whom my Grandmother would make clothes.

Afternoons were spent in a summerhouse that was made with screens so that the big "stick" insects couldn't enter. (Which, to my child's eye, appeared to be 1 foot in length.) I would eat my Grandmother's ginger cake and home made lemonade. Flowers grew in abundance and hung from baskets on the verandahs. I used to walk with Grandpa in the bush looking at the lovely pink lilies just after the rain and red headache flowers. I collected little red velvet spiders.

People live on in our memories and for me he is still larger than life.

# Shattil Schattil Schattil

Family Newsletter

April 2003



For, by and about the descendants of Miram and Mordecai Schattil

## Lets Have Another Reunion

Following a successful first reunion in October 2000, we are looking forward to renew and extend our celebration of cousins by holding the next reunion in 2005.

The first reunion was held in the USA because the country with the greatest number of Schattil descendants is the USA. Here are the numbers of blood relatives in each country;

USA	41
South Africa	24
Australia	15
UK	12
Canada	9
Israel	3

Where should the next reunion be held? USA, where most of our

relatives live? South Africa, where our more recent ancestors lived? Or Lithuania, where Miriam and Mordecai lived? What do you think?

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Although two years have passed since the last issue of this newsletter, news keeps happening anyway. Births, deaths and marriages have reshaped the family

tree. For the most recent version of the family tree, see the web site at shattil.com. Please report any additions and corrections so we can keep the information current and accurate.



Tune in to shattil.com to see the Shattil Family website for the latest updates to the family tree

# Meet The Family

Who We Are: A Spotlight on Interesting Relatives And What They Are Up To  
**Steve Shattil**



You soon will be able to use an inexpensive cell phone as a powerful handheld computer, connect to the Internet, send and receive information quickly while on the road, all without worrying about losing the signal.

This scenario is the result of research and patents by Steve Shattil. He developed a new communication protocol that greatly extends the range and efficiency of wireless communication for such things as cellular phones and Personal Digital Assistants. The military is looking Steve's technology for its capabilities in accessing any type of network and not having to rely on the current infrastructure, which might be immobilized in an attack.

Computer microchips for this technology are being designed now in California and should be in production soon. A spin-off of Lucent Technologies may be using this technology now.

Steve set up two companies, Idris Communications (Idriscomm.com) and Cian Systems (Ciansystems.com), to help develop his research and a holding company. His companies employ 13 people plus subcontracts researchers. He has had

grants from the U.S. Department of Defense, NASA, L3 Communications, TRW, Concept and a Japanese consortium. His company has a joint research project at Colorado State University and is developing another at University of Denver.

Steve has seven US patents so far and 60 patent applications are pending. He has one foreign patent and two dozen more are pending. He has authored 60-70 conference papers.

## Zelicia Lifschitz

In 1997, Zelicia and a friend were at a kosher restaurant in South Africa, talking about how they could make use of their computer skills. They were intrigued with the idea of a Jewish dating service to help combat intermarriage by enabling Jews from all over the world to meet and communicate daily.

They came up with the name "Your Ideal Date." As soon as they realized the

acronym was "YiD", they knew it was beshert. In less than 6 months they had over 500 singles and this number was growing fast. YiD.com became one of the first Jewish international dating websites. Today, it has over 10,000 members, with over 20 couples getting married and the first baby is on the way. The ages of the participants range from 18 to over 70. There is an equal male to female enrollment.

"Its quite interesting to see the average ages per country as for example the USA has the highest average age for singles, (about 35) where in South Africa its about 24," Zelicia observes. "Each time we hear a shiddach we have a little party."

Now living in New Jersey with her husband Simeon, Zelicia is the great granddaughter of Avigdor (Victor) and Bela Schattel.



David, Jemma and Zelicia

## Carole Shattil



Another matchmaker in the family, Carole Shattil runs **How About Lunch**, with three offices in northern California. Carole says her lunches lead to an average of 15 to 17 marriages every year.

"Here, everyone is so busy that they need an extra person around to help them with their personal life," she maintains.

Matthew Shattil, 8, has become the 2003 Nebraska Scholastic Individual Titled Chess Champion for grades K-3 at a tournament in Columbus, NE held on February 22, 2003. Matthew was awarded a trophy for his achievement.



## Matthew Shattil

**To see your name in print, send us a note telling us what you have done.**

**Mail to: Ron Shattil**

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**9200 Skyline Blvd.**

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# Early Records Hint at Family Visits to USA

According to newly available immigration information at Ellis Island, New York, some of the children of Miriam and Mordecai Schattil might have traveled with their Cohen cousins to the United States in the early part of the 20th Century.

The records list Sam Schattil, son of Miriam and Mordecai, as having entered Ellis Island on Feb. 1, 1910 arriving from Bremen, Germany. He was 28 years old at the time and listed his residence as Bulawayo, Africa. He noted that he was originally from Russia. He was traveling with



1912 Ellis Island. Immigrants line up to board the ferry to New York

Isador Cohn, 35, from Memel. Miriam's maiden name was Cohen. Isador could have been a nephew or another relative of Miriam's. Most of the immigrants to the

United States did not remain, but returned to their country of origin. This apparently applied to Samuel also, as our records show that Samuel died in Africa two years later in 1912

Elen Schattil (who we don't currently show on the family tree), 25, arrived on Ellis Island on June 14, 1910. She was from Meusel, Prussia. She was traveling with other members of Cohn family: Ida, 27; Wilhelm, 10; Elias, 7; and Rebecka, 8. These Cohns also listed Meusel as their residence. We can only speculate for now that these Schattils and Cohns were related to Miriam and Mordecai.

## Sarah Poewe Sets Swim Records

by Dan Shattil

Olympic swimmer Sarah Poewe, great granddaughter of Victor and Bela Schattel now swims for the German swim team when she is not attending and swimming for the University of Georgia Bulldogs where she is a freshman.

Poewe joined the German swim team this winter after leaving the South African team last winter. She represented South Africa in the 2000 Sydney, Australia Summer Olympics. The

last time she competed for South Africa was at the Commonwealth Games last summer winning two silver and a bronze medal. South African born Poewe has dual South African and German citizenship as her father is German. She won the gold medal in the 100 meter breaststroke and broke the pool record competing for the first time on the German team in December. She also won silver medals in the 50 meter and 200 meter breaststroke at the meet.

While competing for her college in January, Poewe broke the Dallas, Texas' pool record in the 100-yard breaststroke. As of the end of January, her team had nine tournament victories and only one loss.

She was born March 3, 1983, in Cape Town, South Africa and is the daughter of Rainer and Lorraine



Sarah, her mother Lorraine and brother Jean-Claude

Poewe. She has an older brother Jean-Claude. She grew up in South Africa and attend the German school in Cape Town.