

Family members meet in Australia

By Dan Shattil

Decendants of three of **Miriam** and **Mordecai**'s sons met in December at a mini family reunion in Australia.

Natalie and **Nathan Gafen** hosted a barbeque at their home in Sydney. Attending were fellow Sydney residents **Alex** and **Myra Schattil**; **Dan**, **Emily** and **Matthew Schattil** visiting from Nebraska; **Leslie** and **Jean Dubowitz** visiting from Pennsylvania, and Natalie and Nathan's niece and nephew with their children.

Natalie's and Leslie's mother was **Olga Schattil**, daughter of **Victor** and **Bela Schattil**. Alex Schattil's parents were **Joseph** and **Dina Schattil**. Dan's grandparents was **Julius** and **Ann Schattil**.



Family members, from left, Emily Schattil, Myra Schattil, Natalie and Nathan Gafen and Alex Schattil trade stories in Australia.

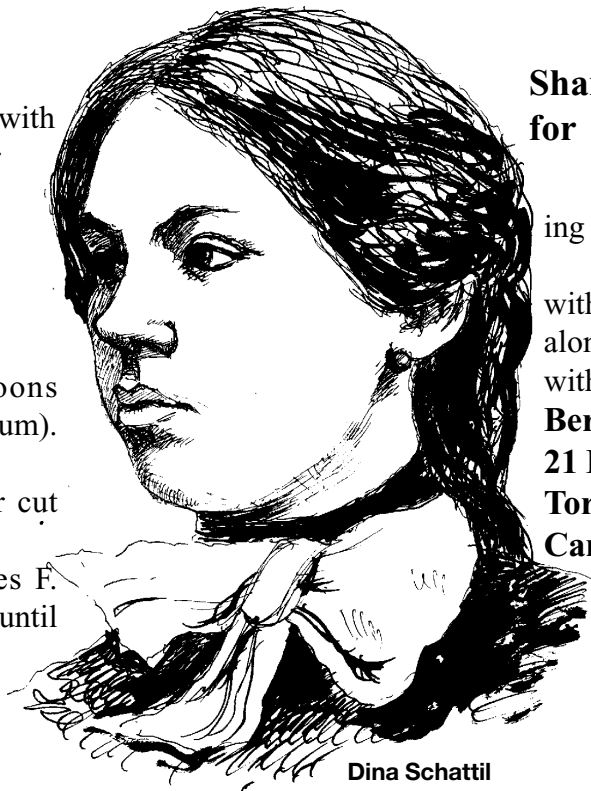
Victor, Joseph and Julius were all sons of Miriam and Mordecai Schattil.

The barbeque lasted six hours as family members compared sto-

ries of life in South Africa and Rhodesia, memories of parents and grandparents and an analysis of the family tree.

Dina Schattil's Ginger Cake

Cream 1/2 lb. butter
1/2 cup sugar
2 Tablespoons syrup mixed with
4 Tablespoons boiling water
Add 4 eggs.
1 1/2 cups flour and
2 teaspoons cinnamon
4 teaspoons ginger and
a pinch of salt.
Lastly dissolve 2 teaspoons
bicarb in a little milk (or rum).
Add to above mixture.
1/2+ cup preserved ginger cut
small.
Bake at about 350 degrees F.
((175 C.) 20-25 minutes or until
done.
When cold, sprinkle cake
with icing sugar powder.



Dina Schattil

Share your favorite recipe for a family cookbook

Bernice Schwartz is compiling a family cookbook

Share your favorite recipes with the rest of the family. Send along a photo of yourself along with the recipe to:

Bernice & Harold Schwartz
21 Howland Avenue
Toronto, Ontario M5R 3B2
Canada



Miriam & Mordecai Schattil



Family Newsletter

Reunion Edition

February, 2001

Family shares experiences at San Francisco reunion

By Arlene Shattil

The first thing that is mentioned in the "How To Have A Family Reunion" books is the importance of an ice breaker. The events planning committee voted 2 to 0 to forego these contrivances.

At the Shattil reunion, the relatives arrived, the talking began and never let up. The Shattils, even though the name is spelled every which way, turned out to have very similar characteristics. They were warm, talented, friendly and genetically blessed with a delicious sense of humor.

Headquarters was at Ron and

Deb Shattil's home in the hills of Oakland, California. The Shattil Shuttle, operated by Ron, began its journey to the airport mid day the day before the reunion to pick up the first arrivals and continued meeting travelers until sundown two days later.

Meanwhile, Deb, who used to be a caterer, was cooking up a storm in the kitchen and had also a staff of two catering friends who helped prepare food for the Friday and Saturday night dinners, Saturday's picnic and Sunday's brunch. Also going on in the kitchen, Wendy Shattil and dad

Siegfried were ironing the Shattil logo onto tee shirts designed by Ron.

Meanwhile, in other kitchens in the area, Leslie Comaroff and daughter Bernice Schwartz in Walnut Creek were cooking delectable edibles, as were Nancy Price in Orinda and Judith Stern in Greenbrae.

The Shattil Shuttle delivered Jean Dubowitz and Victor and Lily Dubowitz to the reunion headquarters early Friday afternoon. The three were full of anecdotes about the family and brought treasured

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Standing: (l to r) Dan Shattil, Shirley Margulis, Norman Price, Jean Dubowitz, Carole Schattil, Emily Schattil, Steve Schattil, Nancy Price, Arlene Shattil, Lily Dubowitz, Tony Stern, Bernice Schwartz, Brett Miller, Deb Shattil,

Jordana Price, Judith Stern and Wendy Shattil. Seated: (l to r) Ted Margulis, Siegfried Shattil, Victor Dubowitz, Leslie Comaroff, Valerie Koff and Ron Shattil.



Jean Dubowitz (from left), Ted Margulis, Valerie Koff and Norman Price look through a family photo album.

photos of relatives, as did many others attending the reunion.

Friday night the family gathered and the Sabbath was observed. The old American saying, "the table groaned," definitely applied as home-made foods were abundant.

Dan Shattil displayed a diagram of the Shattil genealogy he had been collecting over the past two years. The entire Shattil clan seemed to be fascinated by it and continued to check it out, add

to it and make corrections not only Friday, but throughout the entire weekend.

Following dinner, we gathered in a circle and had fun, everyone excited about being together. The gathering spanned ages from six years old to a very young 90.

At one point everyone who had ever been to South Africa was asked to stand up. More than half in the room got to their feet. They were then asked to sing the South African national anthem. There was some hesitation, but then the singing began. At the end there were a few poignant moments of silence before the vivacious talking returned.

The Shattils tended to be generous, intelligent, artistic, handy and tenacious, according to a survey taken that night of the spouses. They rated low on their athletic abilities, being collectors and frugal. They also tended to not have big noses.

Another survey taken of all participants at the Saturday barbecue indicated that family members tended to not have high cholesterol levels but were

more likely to suffer from migraine headaches.

A fourth of family members there spoke more than two languages, had naturally curly hair, owned a pet, were vegetarians and had allergies. Almost a third were chocoholics. One half had artistic or musical talents. Only 8% were left handed while 45% were near-sighted.

Saturday's barbecue was in a beautiful redwood grove nearby. The Shattils showed off their outdoor skills; mainly walking, fire building, conversing and eating.

Doctors Victor Dubowitz, Norman Price and Sanford Shattil gathered together for Doc talk, and the first of two family group pictures was taken with everyone wearing their reunion tee shirt.

Tony, Judith and Monique Stern arrived with the news that Tony that morning had taken his physical, the last step toward receiving his green card, which puts him on his way to becoming a United States permanent resident alien. The Sterns also brought fresh salmon with them that they cooked over the

coals. It was among the culinary delights at dinner later that night.

Following dinner, Ted Margulis, who has done extensive research on the family, presented facts he had uncovered and, which in turn, stimulated anecdotes and childhood memories by others in the room. A second family photograph was taken that night. Also, Judith and Bernice each brought sketching pads to draw pictures of anyone willing to sit still for ten or fifteen minutes.

Sunday's reunion event was a brunch. Ron and Deb's house was filled with relatives who were no longer strangers. Best



Doctors Sanford Shattil (from left), Victor Dubowitz and Norman Price.

of all, we carried away a sense that our forebears were people we could be proud of.

For everyone who was un-



Valerie Koff (from left), Emily Shattil, Leslie Comaroff and Lily Dubowitz explores Leslie's photo album.



Top row (from left), Steve Shattil, Tony Stern, Norman Price, Sanford Shattil, Victor & Lelie Dubowitz. Next row, Judith Stern. Middle row (from left), Shirley & Ted Margulis, Ron & Deb Shattil, Brett Miller, Monique Stern, Valerie Koff and Jean Dubowitz. Front row (from left), Wendy Shattil, Matthew Shattil, Arlene & Siegfried Shattil, Emily & Dan Shattil, and Siohban Kotze.

able to attend, we look forward to meeting you some day, either at the next reunion or during a

visit from us to your country or a visit by you to ours. To the relatives we met that

weekend in October, we trust we will see you again.

The family theme written and performed by Judith Stern:
Invitation to Der Shettils from Der Shtetls

Ve're der Shettils frum der shtetls.
Ve're from Kovno, Memel und Telse.
Ve hev no yenters und shlenters like evryvon else.

Ve're brillian, artishtick mit doctors to spare.
Ve all live past ninety,
Keep our teefs und our hair.

Ve're getting together to meet all of our cousins.
Ve're sure that by now ve have dozens und dozens.

If you vant to join us at the end of the year
Contact us quivckly
before ve're all krappered!

Photographs needed for family tree

Dan Shattil is updating the family tree and will mail each family a 9 foot long copy of our tree.

The next step is to add a photo to each person listed on the tree. Please send him a head and shoulder photo of yourself and your relatives. If head and shoulder pictures are unavailable, send him what you have and he can crop them in his computer.

Send photos via e-mail to: dshattil@unl.edu or to: Dan Shattil, 6309 S. 83rd St., Lincoln, NE 68516, USA. He will return all photos.



Bernice Schwartz draws a portrait of Judith Stern.