



## THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MISSOURI RESEARCH CENTER-KANSAS CITY

K1121

Paul Flam (1922-2013) and Marion Doris Lichtor Flam (1926- 2006)

Papers

[Jewish Community Archives]

1910s-2006

12 cubic feet, 1 oversize item

*Family papers and records relating to a Kansas City based tour service and various community activities of the Flams. Also family papers for the Lichtor family. Includes letters and postcards, journals, certificates, scripts, pilgrimage brochures, Beth Shalom programs/newsletters, newspaper clippings, photographs, scrapbooks, and VHS cassettes.*

### BIOGRAPHY:

Born in Russia ca. 1893, Shemuel Lichtoroff immigrated to the United States on July 10, 1913. He changed his name to Samuel Lichtor and married Esther Funk (daughter of Sarah and Nathan Funk), a Pioneer Women's Council chairman. They settled in Kansas City, where he worked as a barber at the Lathrop Barber Shop. He became a naturalized citizen on February 13, 1922.

Samuel and Esther had two sons, Alexander and Joseph, and one daughter Doris (b. 1926). Alexander and Joseph opened an orthopedic surgery practice. Later, Joseph and his wife Margery, president of the Johnson County Community College Foundation, established the Lichtor Art Gallery at the Jewish Community Center.

Graduating from University of Kansas City in 1948 with a degree in social work, Doris subsequently obtained a MA in education with an emphasis on early childhood development. She was married on July 7, 1946 to Alvin Levine. They had four sons; Jeffrey, Larry, Douglas, and Drew. She was divorced, and in 1973 married Paul Flam.

Doris was a lifetime member of Beth Shalom Sisterhood where she served as; president (1989-1991), docent, member of its Social Action committee, and as the writer, actor, producer, and director of numerous theatrical productions. Doris Flam also was president of Hadassah, vice president of the Women's Division of the Jewish Federation, director of the Jewish Community Center's preschool and

Funtime Camp, and active in the National Conference of Jewish Women's "entertainmobile." She joined the *Kansas City Jewish Chronicle's* advertising department in 1975.

In 1971, Doris and Paul Flam, an Air Force civilian employee, began to coordinate annual trips to Israel sponsored by the Jewish Education Council's Youth Pilgrimages.

Associated with the Air Force since 1943, Paul Flam became one of its earliest initial ground control approach officers and participated in the Guam and Iwo Jima campaigns during World War II. Graduating from Johns Hopkins University, Paul subsequently earned a M.S. in industrial management from MIT. He became recognized as a leading authority in the field of communications-electronics-meteorological logistics by directing the installation of base intrusion sensor systems at several European air bases.

Flam moved to Kansas City in 1970 and became the Special Assistant to the Air Force Communications Service Headquarters Logistics Deputy Chief of Staff at the Richards-Gebaur Air Force base. He was nominated for the prestigious General Thomas Gerrity Memorial Award for Logistics Management in 1974. Also active in the Greater Kansas City Jewish Community, Flam served as a member of; the board of Beth Shalom, the school committee, the men's club, and the Jewish Community Relations Bureau. He also served as the Jewish Education Center High School chairman.

Initially beginning as tour leaders for 300 teenagers who participated in the Kansas City Youth Pilgrimage, Doris and Paul began to run their tour service, Flam Tours, on a full-time basis following Paul's retirement in 1979. They expanded their pilgrimages to include adult groups which travelled to various Middle Eastern, European, Pacific, and South American destinations. By 1983, when the State of Israel awarded her the Ministry of Tourism's Shalom Award for her efforts, Doris had organized 21 groups to Israel. They took their last group trip (the thirty-third) in 2005.

#### PROVENANCE:

This gift was received from Paul Flam as accession KA1685 on March 9, 2009. Additions were received as accessions KA1962 (July 21, 2011) and KA2081 (October 29, 2012). Accession KA2084 was received from Paul Flam on November 26, 2012.

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## PREFERRED CITATION:

Specific item; folder number; *Paul Flam (1922-2013) and Marion Doris Lichtor Flam (1926- 2006) Papers (K1121)*; The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-KC].

## CONTACT:

*The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City*  
302 Newcomb Hall, University of Missouri-Kansas City  
5123 Holmes Street, Kansas City, MO 64110-2499  
(816) 235-1543 [SHSofMO-KC@umsystem.edu](mailto:SHSofMO-KC@umsystem.edu)  
<http://shs.umsystem.edu/index.shtml>

## DESCRIPTION OF THE PAPERS:

This collection consists of letters, postcards, journals, certificates, scripts, pilgrimage brochures, Beth Shalom programs and newsletters, newspaper clippings, photographs, negatives, and VHS cassettes. Also included are volumes of photographs concerning tours led by the donor.

## INVENTORY:

**BOX 001***BETH SHALOM*

- Folder 1.1 Brochure- Sanctuary building fund goal, 1970s
- Folder 1.2 Brochures, 1960s-1980s
- Folder 1.3 Centennial, 1978
- Folder 1.4 Docent committee, 1977-1978
- Folder 1.5 Events, 1988-1991
- Folder 1.6 Materials on Rabbi Hadas, Cantor Sky, Cantor Rothblatt, Abe Meth, 1960s-1980s
- Folder 1.7 Newsletter- *The Beam*, 1956
- Folder 1.8 Newsletter- *Synagogue Scroll*, 1955-1968
- Folder 1.9 Officer installations, 1961-1996
- Folder 1.10 Playbills, 1960s-1980s
- Folder 1.11 Programs, 1970s-1980s
- Folder 1.12 Tapestry sanctuary, 1976-1991

*DORIS FLAM*

- Folder 1.13 Beth Shalom Sisterhood administration, events, 1980s-1990s

- Folder 1.14 Beth Shalom Sisterhood programs, 1950s-1970s
- Folder 1.15 Beth Shalom Sisterhood publicity, 1980s-1991
- Folder 1.16 Camp Shabbat/Women's League for Conservative Judaism, 1980s
- Folder 1.17 Central High School reunions/yearbook, 1964-1980
- Folder 1.18 Certificates from synagogues, 1939-1991
- Folder 1.19 Hadassah, 1970s-1980s
- Folder 1.20 Jewish Federation, 1978-1983
- Folder 1.21 Letters, 1943-1952
- Folder 1.22 Jeff Levine, 1950s-1970s
- Folder 1.23 Larry Levine, 1966
- Folder 1.24 Plays, 1960s-1970s (1 of 2)
- Folder 1.25 Plays, 1960s-1970s (2 of 2)
- Folder 1.26 Radio/TV scripts, 1953-1960s
- Folder 1.27 Recipes- Passover and Chanukah, 1968-1970s
- Folder 1.28 Report cards, driver's license, certificates, 1933-1948
- Folder 1.29 University of KC programs, commencement, 1946-1948

*PAUL AND DORIS FLAM*

- Folder 1.30 Blueprints of 2002 W. 70<sup>th</sup> Terrace, 1957
- Folder 1.31 Breakfast at Bubeh's, 1944, 1981

**BOX 002**

- Folder 2.1 Cards, notes, invitations, 1970s-1980s (1 of 2)
- Folder 2.2 Cards, notes, invitations, 1970s-1980s (2 of 2)
- Folder 2.3 DeVry, Inc. brochures, 1984
- Folder 2.4 Fiftieth anniversary of Marge and Lore Mallin's immigration to U.S., 1988
- Folder 2.5 Flam tours, 1977-1987
- Folder 2.6 Home improvement, 1980s
- Folder 2.7 JA-DE Imports, 1978-1980
- Folder 2.8 Jefferies & Company, Inc. Fixtures Furniture, 1984
- Folder 2.9 Lessons in Judaism, 1970s
- Folder 2.10 Materials- personal, 1970s-1990s
- Folder 2.11 Mental and physical health brochures, 1980s
- Folder 2.12 Newspaper clippings- Jewish history, 1970s

- Folder 2.13 Newspaper clippings- *Kansas City Jewish Chronicle*, 1950s-1980s
- Folder 2.14 Newspaper clippings- non-KC *Jewish Chronicle*, 1950s-1980s
- Folder 2.15 Newspaper clippings- personal, 1970s-1990s
- Folder 2.16 Elaine Polsky bond dinner, 1984
- Folder 2.17 Postcards, 1970s
- Folder 2.18 Seder- 1980s
- Folder 2.19 Theatre and art programs, 1970s-1980s
- Folder 2.20 Tourism, 1970s
- Folder 2.21 Various items, 1970s

*PAUL FLAM*

- Folder 2.22 Paul Flam, 1972-2006
- Folder 2.23 Paul Flam- Journals, award, 1970s

*LICHTOR FAMILY*

- Folder 2.24 Lichtor family- cards, anniversaries, 1920s-1970s (1 of 2)
- Folder 2.25 Lichtor family- cards, anniversaries, 1920s-1970s (2 of 2)
- Folder 2.26 Lichtor family- certificates, 1940-1956
- Folder 2.27 Lichtor family- Fiftieth wedding anniversary cards, 1966
- Folder 2.28 Lichtor family- finances, 1910s-1940s
- Folder 2.29 Lichtor family- invites, 1925-1950
- Folder 2.30 Lichtor family- letters from Alex Lichtor to his parents, 1944-1950

**BOX 003**

- Folder 3.1 Lichtor family- letters from Joseph Lichtor to Samuel and Esther Lichtor, 1950
- Folder 3.2 Lichtor family- letters from Lottie Ohringer to Esther Lichtor, 1947
- Folder 3.3 Lichtor family- letters in Russian, 1910s-1940s (1 of 2)
- Folder 3.4 Lichtor family- letters in Russian, 1910s-1940s (2 of 2)
- Folder 3.5 Lichtor family- letters in Yiddish, 1910s-1940s
- Folder 3.6 Lichtor family- Lichtor gallery dedication at Menorah Medical Center Chapel, March 27, 1977
- Folder 3.7 Lichtor family- Joseph Lichtor's Bar Mitzvah speech, August 22, 1931
- Folder 3.8 Lichtor family- miscellaneous, 1950s
- Folder 3.9 Lichtor family- miscellaneous letters, 1940s-1970s

- Folder 3.10 Lichtor family- naturalization papers, 1922
- Folder 3.11 Lichtor family- newspaper clippings, 1950s
- Folder 3.12 Lichtor family- Pioneer Women national convention, 1950s

*PILGRIMAGES TO ISRAEL*

- Folder 3.13 1971 Pilgrimage
- Folder 3.14 1971 Pilgrimage- address book and notes, 1971
- Folder 3.15 1971 Pilgrimage- *Kansas City Jewish Chronicle* clippings
- Folder 3.16 1972 Pilgrimage
- Folder 3.17 1972 Pilgrimage- *Kansas City Jewish Chronicle* clippings
- Folder 3.18 1972 Pilgrimage- twentieth anniversary reunion, 1992
- Folder 3.19 1973 Pilgrimage
- Folder 3.20 1973 Pilgrimage- *Kansas City Jewish Chronicle* clippings
- Folder 3.21 1974 Pilgrimage
- Folder 3.22 1975 Pilgrimage
- Folder 3.23 1975 Pilgrimage- *Kansas City Jewish Chronicle* clippings
- Folder 3.24 General information, 1970s
- Folder 3.25 Israel maps, 1970s
- Folder 3.26 Pilgrimage committee, 1968-1972
- Folder 3.27 Pilgrimage rosters, 1972-1975

**BOX 004**

*MISCELLANEOUS*

- Maybelline velvet black eyeliner, ca. 1980s

*NEGATIVES*

- Folder 4.1 Lichtor family, 1950s
- Folder 4.2 Morocco family trip/25<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary/Paul Flam's 75<sup>th</sup> birthday and tablet dedication, 1990s

*PHOTOGRAPHS*

- Folder 4.3 Photographs- Beth Shalom centennial, 1978
- Folder 4.4 Photographs- Breakfast at Bubie's, 1943
- Folder 4.5 Photographs- Central High School class of 1943 40<sup>th</sup> reunion, 1983
- Folder 4.6 Photographs- Paul and Doris Flam, 1970s
- Folder 4.7 Photographs- Hadassah, 1938-1952

Folder 4.8 Photographs- Morocco family trip/25<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary/Paul Flam's 75<sup>th</sup> birthday and tablet dedication, 1990s

Folder 4.9 Photographs- Pilgrimages, 1971-1975

### **BOX 005**

#### *SCRAPBOOKS*

Volume Kansas City Pilgrimage to Israel, (London), 1971 ("continued" volume)

Volume Kansas City Pilgrimage to Israel, (Paris), 1973

Volume Kansas City Pilgrimage to Israel, (miscellaneous), 1973 ("continued" volume)

Volume Orient Tour, May 1977

Volume Israel Tour, April 30-May 17, 1979

Volume Kansas City Pilgrimage to Israel, 1975 [removed to folder]

Volume Israel Tour VIII, October-November, 1979

Volume Canada Tour, August 3-15, 1979  
Canada Tour, August 15-27, 1979

### **BOX 006**

#### *SCRAPBOOKS*

Volume Scandinavia Trip, July 1978  
Scandinavia Trip, July 1982

Volume Orient Tour, November 1980

Volume Alaska Trip, August 7-16, 1981  
Hawaii / Las Vegas, January 4-15, 1982

Volume Israel / Egypt Tour, April-May, 1982

Volume French Canada Tour, August 12-24, 1982  
French Canada Tour, June 17-30, 1986

### **BOX 007**

#### *SCRAPBOOKS*

Volume Caribbean Cruise / Florida, February 1983  
Spain / Morocco / Portugal Tour, October-November 1983

Volume European Capitals Tour, May 4-21, 1983

Volume Canada Rockies Tour, July, 1983  
Canada Rockies Tour, August, 1985

Volume New England Fall Foliage Tour, 1983  
Joe's 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday, August 12, 1983

Volume California Trip, September 1983

- Volume Chai Israel / Egypt Trip, May 1984
- BOX 008**
- SCRAPBOOKS*
- Volume Greece / Greek Islands / Italy Tour, July 1984
- Volume China / Hong Kong / Japan Tour, October 29-November 15, 1984
- Volume Washington DC / Williamsburg / Gettysburg Tour, August 15-26, 1985
- Volume Kansas City Pilgrimage to Israel, August 13-31, 1985
- BOX 009**
- SCRAPBOOKS*
- Volume Rabbi Morris Margolies Retirement, May 1986  
B'nai B'rith Women Award, December 11, 1986
- Volume Canada Rockies / Victoria / Vancouver Tour, July 19-August 2, 1987
- Volume Scandinavia Tour, July 9-23, 1988
- Volume Israel Tour, 1989
- BOX 010**
- SCRAPBOOKS*
- Volume Paul Flam's 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday, March 17, 1992
- Volume Kansas City Pilgrimage to Israel, May 11-25, 1992
- Volume Kansas City Pilgrimage to Israel, June 1-17, 1993
- Volume New York / Washington DC Tour, April 10-17, 1994
- Volume Exotic Turkey Tour, October 9-20, 1994
- BOX 011**
- Folder 11.1 Booklet: Dedication of the new Beth Shalom Synagogue Sanctuary, April 30, 1971
- Folder 11.2 Rosters: Community High School of Jewish Studies, 1975-1980
- Folder 11.3 Tours: Kansas City Pilgrimage to Israel, 1973; 1975
- Folder 11.4 Tours: Western Canada, 1989  
Ireland and Scotland, 1990
- Folder 11.5 Tours: London Theater, March 24-31, 1990
- Folder 11.6 Tours: New York / Washington DC, April 10-17, 1994
- Folder 11.7 Tours: Exotic Turkey, October 9-20 1994
- Folder 11.8 Tours: Las Vegas, December 1994



- Folder 11.9 Tours: Beth Shalom to Israel, July 16-30, 1995
- Folder 11.10 Tours: Italy, November 9-19 1995
- Folder 11.11 Tours: Malta, December 2-8, 1996  
Morocco, 1997-1998, 1990
- Folder 11.12 Tours: Prague / Budapest / Vienna, March 9-21, 1999
- Folder 11.13 Tours: Central Europe, September 2-18, 1999
- Folder 11.14 Tours: Spain, November 5-17, 1999
- Folder 11.15 Tours: Israel, March 29-April 11, 2000
- Folder 11.16 Tours: China, November 1-15, 2000

*SLIDES*

- Folder 11.17 Slides: Rabbi Morris Margolies Retirement, May 1986
- Folder 11.18 Slides: Family, travel, miscellaneous
- Folder 11.19 Slides: Family (?) or Margolies slide show (?)
- Folder 11.20 Slides: Kansas City Pilgrimage to Israel IV
- Folder 11.21 Slides: Israel
- Folder 11.22 Slides: Holyland series
- Folder 11.23 Slides: "Our visit to Israel" series (w/ 90 minute cassette [missing])
- Folder 11.24 Slides: Travel
- Box Slides: "Our visit to Israel" series (w/ 90 minute cassette [missing])

*VHS CASSETTES*

- Tape "Tironut"- Private Michael Firestone in Israel, summer 1980
- Tape Golden Anniversary, Milan and Glen Blumenthal, Hotel Muehlbach, October 25, 1980
- Tape Elaine Polsky bond dinner slide show, 1985
- Tape B'nai B'rith Women Ruth Markowitz Memorial Award for Community Service given to Doris Flam, 1986 recipient
- Tape Rabbi Morris Margolies Retirement Dinner [May 1986]
- Tape Judy Firestone- Hanaton interview for Mercaz, August 27, 1987
- Tape Wasserstrom [1989]
- Tape Hebrew Academy- Evie Wasserstrom tribute, May 7, 1989
- Tape Beth Shalom Sisterhood installation of officers and board of directors, a musical revue honoring outgoing president Sandra Kay Rozen, May 23, 1989
- Tape Israel, May 1990 by Helen Coppaken (tape 1)

- Tape Israel, May 1990 by Helen Coppaken (tape 2)
- Tape “Sisterhood- Good for Your Health No Fat, No Salt, No Sirs!” Membership luncheon meeting, September 25, 1990
- Tape Beth Shalom Sisterhood: 67<sup>th</sup> installation of officers and directors- a musical revue for outgoing president Doris Flam and incoming president Noreen Greenberg, May 22, 1991
- Tape Tape Index #137 Siyum HaTorah Program. “Dedication Service.” Contents: Completion of the Torah, chairman Jim Badzin, Gary Cortes, congregation president Elaine Polsky, Senior Rabbi Alan Cohen. October 25, 1992, 90 minutes/ *The Scroll*, October 1991
- Tape Abe Meth’s 80<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration, May 1992
- Tape Tape Index #138 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Women’s League for Conservative Judaism: “Musical Review: The Creation.” Contents: Remembrance of Matilde Schechter: January 26, 1993, 60 minutes
- Tape Tape Index #143 Beth Shalom Sisterhood: installation of officers and board- “BS... I Love You,” honoring outgoing president Noreen Greenberg and incoming president Alison Heisler, May 18, 1993, 120 minutes
- Tape Sam Nussbaum’s tape of Mike Firestone in Israel with General Natke Nir
- Tape Sivan and Twins from Summer 1998-December 1998
- Tape Firestone Home Movies—Benard’s films
- BOX 012** (KA2084) in office
- Folder 12.1 “The Book of Books an introduction to the Bible” by Rabbi Morris B. Margolies
- Folder 12.2 Various topics: Jewish Medical issues; “Good and Evil” by Martin Buber, 1952; Jewish-Christian relations
- Folder 12.3 Newsletters: “Sh’ma”, April 1999-February 2000
- Folder 12.4 Photograph Album: Israel, May 1980; Israel, March 1981
- OVERSIZE**
- Item Photograph- silver jubilee banquet, pioneer women, women’s labor Zionist organization of America and national presidents’ conference, the Waldorf-Astoria, October 9, 1950

**PAUL FLAM**

Paul Flam, 90, a long-time resident of Kansas City, passed away on Saturday, February 9, 2013 at his new home in Providence, RI. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, February 14 at Louis Memorial Chapel. Burial will follow in Mt. Carmel Cemetery.

Shiva will be held Thursday evening from 7-9 p.m. at Town Village in Leawood, KS and Friday 2-4 p.m. at the home of his daughter, Nina Shik. Contributions in his name can be made to the Doris Flam Early Childhood Arts Fund of Congregation Beth Shalom or the Jewish Community Center of Greater Kansas City.

Born in Baltimore, MD in 1922, son of Abraham Flam and Rose Kwash, Paul graduated from City College High School at age 16, Johns Hopkins University at age 20, and later received a Master's Degree from MIT. He enlisted in the Army Air Corps and served as an electronics officer in the Pacific Theatre on Guam and Iwo Jima. Following the war, Paul remained with the Air Force as a civil servant and reservist until he retired in 1979, having earned the highest civil servant rank granted by the Air Force Communications Service.

Paul was married to Jeanne Rosenthal Flam, with whom he had two children, from 1944 to her death in 1970. After his retirement from the Air Force, Paul embarked on a new career with his second wife, Doris Lichtor Flam. Until her death, they coordinated guided tours for groups of teenagers and adults to destinations around the world, including many trips to Israel. Paul shared his love of books, travel and current events with his third wife, Bea Firestone Flam, who died in 2009.

An active member in the Kansas City Jewish community, Paul served on the board of Congregation Beth Shalom and was a leader in the Jewish Federation, the Jewish Community Center, CAJE and Museum without Walls.

He is survived by his children, Alan Flam and wife Judy Semonoff; Nina Shik and husband David Shik, stepchildren Drew, Douglas and Jeffrey Levine and husband Reed Fletcher. He is also survived by five grandchildren, Lucy, Ezra and Gabriel Semonoff Flam, Jonathan Shik, Sarah Lamdan and husband Eyal, and two great grandchildren, Benjamin and Evelyn Lamdan.

Online condolences may be shared at [www.louismemorialchapel.com](http://www.louismemorialchapel.com).

Arrangements: The Louis Memorial Chapel and Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 816-361-5211.

KCJC THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14 2013 12:00