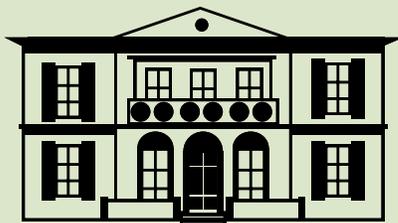


# In Touch

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN FRIENDS OF THE  
JEWISH MUSEUM HOHENEMS, INC.

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## Letter from the President

TIMOTHY L. HANFORD

Dear Friends and Supporters of AFJMH:

It is my pleasure to share this special year-end newsletter with you.

As you will see from Director Hanno Loewy's article, the Jewish Museum Hohenems has had a busy 2016, its 25th year. And next year promises to be even more exciting.

I hope you enjoyed Jessica Piper's report on her internship this summer at the Museum. Jessica is a student at Bowdoin College and, significantly for us, a Hohenems descendant (Rosenthal family). I want to express special thanks to Jessica for her service. You can read more about her summer here: <http://reunion.jm-hohenems.at/author/jessica>. We look forward to sponsoring another intern next summer. Any Hohenems descendant who will be in college next year should contact our treasurer Uri Taenzer ([taenzer@tesalaw.com](mailto:taenzer@tesalaw.com)) for information about the program.

As you know, the Museum has been working extensively over the years to detail the history and genealogy of the Hohenems Jewish families. Please see the Hohenems Genealogy database at <http://www.hohenemsgenealogie.at/en>.

Since many of us don't speak German, it is wonderful that the Museum this year arranged to translate a book on the Burgauer Family; a chapter is included in this issue.

Next year is the 400th anniversary of Jewish presence in Hohenems. As part of the celebration, the Museum is holding the 2017 Hohenems Descendants Reunion on July 27-30, 2017, less than a year from now. Please block out those dates on your calendars and make family plans to attend. Details about the reunion are available elsewhere in this Newsletter.

I attended the last reunion in 2008 and can promise you that it's an experience you won't forget. You'll meet cousins from around the world, learn about the lives of your Hohenems ancestors, and, most importantly, have fun. Also, if you would like to volunteer to help out at the Reunion, please send a note to Susan Shimer ([sshimer@optonline.net](mailto:sshimer@optonline.net)).

The AFJMH is proud to have so many American Hohenems descendants as members. But we would be more than happy to welcome more! Please send a note to your siblings and cousins and urge them to take a look at the AFJMH website ([www.AFJMH.org](http://www.AFJMH.org)) and consider joining AFJMH.

**I also want to take this opportunity to extend our best wishes to all for another productive year in 2017. Your past generosity to AFJMH is deeply appreciated.**

**With the ongoing planning for the upcoming reunion in mind, I encourage you to continue your financial support to help the Jewish Museum Hohenems in preparing for this exciting event and in carrying on its numerous projects.**

Sincerely,  
Tim Hanford  
President

*Save the Date:*

**HOHENEMS DESCENDANTS REUNION**  
at the Jewish Museum Hohenems  
July 27-30, 2017

## News from the Museum

DR. HANNO LOEWY

Our Silver Jubilee is coming to an end – and next year’s celebration of “400 years of Jewish presence in Hohenems” is beginning. We can’t wait to see you all at the Reunion 2017. By now many of you have made your bookings in the hotels and we foresee a grand reunion, celebrating the significance of the date! The Jewish Quarter of Hohenems will be waiting for you



*Blessing of Salomon Sulzer Square with Rabbi Tovia Ben-Chorin, Cantor Shmuel Barzilai, Imam Sezai Ates and Parish Priest Thomas Heilbrun*

in good shape. The community’s “Shared Space,” installed in the course of the year with granite cobblestones, new lighting, benches and a well has made the public space in the center of town very attractive, both for the locals and the guests. The Museum will wait for you, not only with the new permanent exhibition installed in 2007 (that some of you have already seen)—but also with the new library and archive facilities on the other side of the street, and a thought provoking exhibition in the Museum about “The Female Side of God”.

Please find the program of the Reunion 2017 in this newsletter and let us know whether you will join us. And please have a look on our vivid blog “Letters from the Hohenems Diaspora” that Jessica Piper (Rosenthal) brought to life during her stay in Hohenems this summer as the sponsored intern of the American Friends. We can’t say how grateful we are for the experience to have had her here with us this year.

## Highlights of 2016

### Exhibitions

Our exhibition “Odd. A glimpse into the collections—on the 25th anniversary of the Jewish Museum Hohenems” was a big success; so we decided to give it a few extra months and it will remain open until February 19, 2017. Our traveling exhibitions are having wonderful receptions. “Jukebox. Jewkbox! A Century on Shellac & Vinyl” enjoyed an enthusiastic reception in London, attracting thousands of visitors and receiving great press coverage, including from the Times of London. The exhibition is now on its way to Warsaw, where it will open in the largest Jewish Museum in Europe on February 2, 2017. Further shows are being discussed for Amsterdam and Cleveland. We’ll keep you posted. “Family Affairs. Israeli Portraits by Reli and Avner Avrahami” was shown in the Rotterdam Central Library and is now being shown at the Concentration Camp Memorial of Flossenbürg in Bavaria until March 2017.

### DESCENDANTS — AN INTERNSHIP AWAITS

If you are a college student and a descendant of a Jewish family that previously resided in Hohenems, please consider applying for an 8 week internship at the Jewish Museum Hohenems next summer. AFJMH will reimburse you for transportation up to \$1500 and pay you a small stipend. The Museum will find a family to host you during your stay. If you are interested, please write to our secretary/treasurer, Uri Taenzer, taenzer@tesalaw.com

### Programs

Successful programs this year were focused on cultural exchanges and friendship with locals, including special programs and collaborations with local associations in Hohenems: various sport clubs, choirs, artisans’ associations, the Chamber of Commerce, the Red Cross, the fire brigade, the Alpine Club, and various youth centers. A highlight of these collaborations has been a chess tournament featuring Andreas Dückstein, a Jewish chess legend in Austria, who at 89 years of age, is playing joyfully with young talent from all over



Europe. The chess club too had a jubilee to celebrate. It has been 90 years since chess enthusiasts of Hohenems, including Harry Weil, founded the chess club that today is again relying on Jewish chess players and is successfully performing in the first national league in Austria.

Together with the “Gesangsverein,” which emerged as a joint Jewish-Christian enterprise out of the Hohenems synagogue choir, and was the first secular choir association in Vorarlberg more than 160 years ago, we had the pleasure in May of inviting Chief Cantor Shmuel Barzilai from Vienna for a concert of Sulzer songs and other popular music of the past 160 years. Our music activities continued in June with a very

## News from the Museum *(cont.)*

special event, bringing together, on the stage of the Sulzer auditorium, Israeli, Palestinian, American, Viennese and Vorarlberg performers to sing and play music by Schubert, Salomon Sulzer and his two sons Joseph and Julius. This unusual concert was performed before stunned audiences in Hohenems, Vienna (in the Hamakom Theatre) and the Austrian Hospice in Jerusalem in November.



*Inauguration of the Salomon Sulzer Square with Mayor Dieter Egger*

Last, but not least, at the Hohenems Choir- and Organ-Festival in October, we had the pleasure of participating in a concert project with liturgical music for organ, viola and choir, performed at St. Karl's Church. Our focus was on the Jewish-Christian dialogue in music and included, among other jewels, Schubert's Psalm 92 (written for Salomon Sulzer), and music by Joseph Sulzer, Max Bruch's Kol Nidre and organ music by Louis Lewandowski.

### Joyful and thoughtful celebration of the new Shared Space in the Jewish Quarter of Hohenems: The Salomon Sulzer Platz

After years of planning and discussion of the best design and traffic solutions and six months of construction, the new "Shared Space" was opened to the public in the Jewish Quarter in the presence of hundreds of locals and friends of the Museum and other dignitaries. Cantor Shmuel Barzilai from the Israelitische Kultusgemeinde in Vienna sang Sulzer Lieder, accompanied by the band "the Bauernfänger," and blessings were offered to the space by Thomas Heilbrun, the parish priest of St. Karl's Church, Rabbi Tovia Ben-Chorin from St. Gallen and Sezai Ates, the Imam from the Turkish-Muslim community of Hohenems.

Pierre Burgauer commented about his family memories of the Jewish Quarter and expressed his thoughts about Hohenems' development today. Franz Sauer, who lives

across from the Museum remarked on the great changes that have taken place in the last few years. Tugce Celik, whose family were Turkish immigrants and who grew up in the Jewish Quarter in the 1990s, told her story of being an "other" in Hohenems in her formative years, when Jewish history was rediscovered, and other "Others" made their way into society.

Mayor Dieter Egger inaugurated the new Salomon Sulzer Square in front of the former synagogue, while many hundreds of Hohenems residents celebrated the new "Shared Space." That space invites people from all over the region, locals and guests of all backgrounds, to a new center of life in our town, offering a relaxed atmosphere for getting together. We cannot forget Richard Amann, the mayor of Hohenems until 2015, who had engaged himself with all his energy in this project, and now it has come to fulfillment.



A school class from the local primary school performed shadow plays written by Monika Helfer about the Jewish history of Hohenems. Hundreds of curious locals used the opportunity to visit the Museum, while others simply enjoyed good music, food and drinks (a Bavarian-Israeli craft beer collaboration) and enjoyed dancing into the night. It was truly an unforgettable day and evening.

## News from the Museum *(cont.)*

### Upcoming Exhibition

## “The Female Side of God. Perspectives on Gender and Holiness,” April 30 - October 8, 2017

*Genesis 1:27: “And God created man in His image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.”*

This exhibition “The Female Side of God”, produced in collaboration with the Museum of the Bible in Washington, examines the extent to which the “one God” is, indeed, also considered female in Jewish tradition. It touches basic questions of the relationship between monotheism and gender, the religious sources and the thinking of many people, a debate about equality through the ages.

What are the strategies women have developed over the centuries in religious thought and religious practice to include females into the conception of God?

In the ancient Near East, notions about female goddesses, sometimes closely linked to male partners, were widespread. These notions still loomed large in the development of Yahwism. The rejection of any anthropomorphic image of God in many religions precluded discussion of concrete gender attribution. The idea of a clearly defined female dimension of God lived on, nonetheless—sometimes to a larger, sometimes to a lesser degree, in the Hebrew Bible, the extracanonical scriptures, and rabbinical literature as well as, particularly, in Jewish mysticism.

Hence, the attempt of women actively to participate in the work of God is not based on any “feministic” development but rather on the well-based view of a divine image that is much less specifically male. Obviously, that male image is one that a patriarchal society has fostered over the course of 2000 years.

Surprisingly, thus far, this question has not been subject to any in-depth treatment by Jewish museums. The Jewish Museum Hohenems decided to take a multilayered approach to this issue: through analysis of the sources of the monotheistic notion of God and its material heritage, the perspective of artistic examinations of traditional conceptions of God, and the biographies of Jewish women who have searched for other dimensions of the divine.



*Not the usual welcome of Grüss Gott, but rather the female version—Grüss Göttin.*  
©Ursula Beiler

An academic catalogue in German and English (with essays by Rachel Elijor, Peter Schäfer, Micha Brumlik, Halima Krausen, Susanna Heschel, Ursula Rapp) will accompany the exhibition.

### Yerusha

Starting in January 2017, the Jewish Museum Hohenems will participate in the Yerusha program of the Rothschild Foundation Europe. The project “Documentation of Jewish Life in Western Austria” seeks to research and gather material from communal, state and national archives as well as the archives of existing Jewish communities in Vorarlberg, Tyrol and South Tyrol, Vienna, Switzerland and Liechtenstein. The results, to be presented as descriptive collections documenting Jewish life in this particular region, will be found later on the Yerusha database and be accessible to researchers and interested people from all over the world.

**Enclosed with this Newsletter is a Registration Form for the Reunion to be held in Hohenems July 27-July 31. Please return the form by February 28, 2017.**

**Hotel space in Hohenems is limited. Late comers might have to find accommodations in the neighboring towns. Of course, the Museum will try to help you.**

## In Memoriam

### Harry Weil, Jr. 1931 - 2016



Harry Weil, Jr., a trustee of the American Friends Jewish Museum Hohenems, died on June 8. He was born in Bregenz in 1931 and attended primary school in Hohenems before fleeing Austria with his parents in 1938. Harry was the last surviving Jewish Hohenemser from the time of the persecutions by the Third Reich.

His father, Harry Romberg Weil, had served in the First World War as an infantryman with the Tyrolean Kaiserjäger (rifle regiment) in northern Italy and upon his return had participated actively in numerous Hohenems and Vorarlberg theatrical and musical societies. In 1924, he, together with kindred spirits, founded the Hohenems Workers' Choral Society (Nibelungenhort), a society still in existence. When Harry's grandfather died in 1934, Harry's father moved back to Hohenems and served as organist in the synagogue and held religious lessons for the few Jewish youngsters living in Hohenems. He also acted on an informal basis as community cantor. After the Anschluss, Harry's father assisted refugees in crossing the Rhine to Switzerland, before he himself, with his wife and young Harry, escaped that way in June 1938.

In 1939, the family reached the United States and settled in Chicago. After the war, Harry's father, as one of the last surviving members of the Hohenems Jewish Community, tried to reclaim the community's assets and also his own apartment. However, all his petitions were rejected. After all,

according to Hohenems' first postwar mayor, he had "left voluntarily" in 1938. The family remained in America; his father took over the American representation of Rupp, the Vorarlberg processed-cheese producer, and died in California in 1970. In accordance with his wishes, his remains were buried in the Jewish cemetery in Hohenems.

Meanwhile Harry, Jr. went to school in Chicago and then, at the age of 17, joined the U.S. Navy. Harry savored a proud military career, which included being in The French Foreign Legion and an active member of the Navy Air Force. He participated in the Korean War and was awarded the Purple Heart. After retirement from the military, Harry settled down in Albuquerque and started a family. He was employed by the Albuquerque National Bank and later became a successful tax accountant.

He returned to Hohenems on more than one occasion, most recently to celebrate the Museum's 20th anniversary in July 2011. On the evening of Saturday, July 2, he was awarded an honorary Golden Key to the City of Hohenems. Harry, still

spry at 79, captivated a rapt audience of over 500 enthusiastic celebrants attending the 20th birthday celebration of the Jewish Museum Hohenems in the brand new Loewensaal located across from the palace. His brief, yet deeply touching presentation, was delivered extemporaneously in German. His closing words, which moved the audience deeply, were: "I believe each person has two dwellings: a dwelling where one lives and a dwelling of the heart. For me, Hohenems is the Heimat of the heart."

His wife and five children, six grandchildren and one great granddaughter survive Harry.



## Fragments from the Burgauer story

DR. HANNO LOEWY

The Burgauer family first appeared in Hohenems in 1741, when Judith Burgauer, a young widow of twenty-one and mother from the Burgau region near Augsburg settled in Hohenems to marry for a second time. Jonathan Maier Uffenheimer from Innsbruck was a wealthy merchant and gave her a chance to begin a new life. At least one child died young. Their son Abraham married 15-year-old Sara Brettauer from Hohenems and moved to Venice. Their daughter Brendel married Sara's brother, Herz Lämle, later the patriarch of the Brettauer family and founder of the first bank in Vorarlberg. Their daughters, Klara and Rebeka also married into successful families, the Viennese Wertheimstein and the Frankfurt Wetzlar family. Another daughter, Judith, married Nathan Elias, the head of the Hohenems community in about 1800. This was a successful marriage policy that was rather typical for a Jewish family at the upper end of the social hierarchy. However, most of the Jewish families in that era had a hard time finding marriage partners and places for their children to live.

Of interest is what happened to Benjamin, Judith's first son from Burgau. The sources as to when he definitely settled in Hohenems are scarce. Aron Tänzer mentions the year 1773; so it is possible that he grew up with relatives in the vicinity of Augsburg. In any case, sometime before 1772, Benjamin Burgauer married Jeanette Moos, the daughter of Maier Moos, who for more than 20 years had served as head and representative of the Hohenems Jewish community. These were critical times; the family of the imperial counts of Hohenems died out and the countship fell back into the control of the Hapsburg Empire. Under difficult circumstances, new letters of protection needed to be settled. The Empress Maria-Theresa was known for her blatant anti-Jewish sentiments.

Even though Benjamin's father-in-law successfully secured the future of the community and even though the dream of building a proudly visible synagogue took place while he was head of the community, the community still had to survive restrictions and hardships. In the year of Maier Moos' death, a great fire destroyed both half the Christian's lane and the Jew's lane. While the Jews were required to contribute financially to the reconstruction of the Christian quarter, support in the other direction was scarce. And the restrictions on settlement and marriage imposed on the Jewish communities, limiting the continuation of a family in Hohenems to one (and mostly the eldest) son and his offspring, continued until the middle of the 19th century. These restrictions forced the vast majority of children to emigrate, if they wanted to marry and create a family.

Two of Benjamin's daughters, Esther and Brendel, found husbands in Lengnau in Switzerland. Brendel married Baruch Guggenheim, one of the many Burgauer-Guggenheim connections that were to come. His son Benjamin Maier stayed in Hohenems, but three of his other children started business in St. Gallen and moved their families to this vibrant hub of textile production. Two other children emigrated in the 1840s and 1850s to the United States of America, particularly to Philadelphia, as did so many other of their fellow Hohenemsers. Family members of subsequent generations continued this migration, even from St. Gallen. And in South America, too, there is a Burgauer line today.



*Burgauer Factory, St. Gallen Switzerland*

Thanks to Stefan Weis' study "Entirely Unbeknown to His Homeland—The Burgauers. History and Migrations of a Jewish Family from the mid-18th until the mid-20th Century," written as a diploma thesis in 2013, today we know much more about the origins, migrations, and diversity of the Burgauer family. With a generous grant from the American Friends Jewish Museum Hohenems and through the efforts of the Leland Foundation, supported by Jacqueline Burgauer-Leland and Marc Leland, we have produced an English translation of Stefan Weis' book. It can be ordered as a digital file in the Museum and will soon be published, without charge, on the website. We are pleased to present in this Newsletter one chapter about the emigration to the Americas.

**The patterns of migration, marriage, education and business, hardships, failures and successes, is one side of the story; the political events and crimes of the 20th century are another framework that influenced the Burgauers fate, even if not as radical as for so many other Jewish families in Europe. But some of it is just chance, and the sometimes more and sometimes less productive channels of information. We were lucky to get in touch. So we just hope to see many Burgauers next year.**

# The Burgauer Family and the Migration to the Americas

STEFAN WEIS

## 1. From Hohenems to the USA<sup>1</sup>

Through Mayer Benjamin's estate, we have learned about the two emigrants from Hohenems. Benjamin Maier and his brother Leopold left their hometown of Hohenems around 1850 and emigrated to the United States of America.

Emigration from German-speaking areas to America remained low between 1700 and 1820, but kept rising until 1854, peaking at 215,000 persons that year. The American Civil War, in particular, brought about a significant decrease before another peak was reached in 1882 with a quarter of a million German-speaking immigrants. In the 19th century, a total of six million German-speaking individuals emigrated to the United States, four million of them in the wake of the failed Revolution of 1848.<sup>2</sup> Whatever push and pull motives might have applied to the Burgauers' emigration, they were probably similar to those that induced their own brothers to leave for Switzerland: the prospect of more liberties and rights elsewhere, better economic outlook, mainly, however, the founding of a family, which was impossible at home due to maximum limit (Normzahl) and registration number (Matrikelnummer). Another emigration motive might have been the escape from military service, which became a reason for many a Vorarlberg Christian as well. The fact that the USA was developing into an increasingly important market for St. Gallen products was probably another significant incentive for the family. Emigration overseas was not desirable in the eyes of the Austrian authorities. They tried to obstruct the Swiss "agencies for the transport of emigrants to America" in their work and instead, to promote the "from a national-economic aspect desirable immigration to Hungary."<sup>3</sup> This likely did not concern Jews at all since at the time the prevailing policy was still to strictly curtail their rights and keep their numbers as low as possible. Of the fifty persons known by name who emigrated from the Hohenems Jewish community to America between 1845 and 1938,

at least thirty left Vorarlberg between 1846 and 1860; among the remaining twenty, ten women married overseas in the space of sixty-eight years. In 1860, the Jewish Community head compiled a list, which showed that forty-five young men from the conscription years 1817 until 1840 were absent; twenty-four of them were living in the United States. Of the forty emigrated men, all were single; not a single family moved overseas, probably because of the emigration tax, which amounted to almost a quarter of a family's assets.<sup>4</sup>

The strong desire for social and economic liberties is reflected in the percentage distribution within Hohenems. While the Jewish population initially constituted 10%, later 5% of the total population, 25% of emigrants to America were from the Jewish community. This also meant that the Burgauers were able to draw on the migration experiences of their fellow Jews: there was a Löwenberg in Philadelphia in 1836, Simon Hirschfeld was a founding member of the emigrants' association in Ohio in 1844, and Samuel Bernheimer in New York and New Orleans in 1845. Thus, it was, for instance, possible to benefit from the latter's experience in establishing a trade in colonial goods and textiles.<sup>5</sup>

On March 27, 1852, the army draft card for Leopold Burgauer arrived. From the enlistment protocol, we learn a few personal details about Leopold: twenty-two years old, black hair, pink skin color, 5 feet 6 inches (168 cm) tall, from Tyrol, Austria, weaver (laces). He was hired by Captain McLane in Baltimore and released on July 30, 1853.<sup>6</sup> During the American Civil War, he was called up again. He served in the first company of the 27th Pennsylvania Infantry<sup>7</sup> of the Union, enlisted as corporal and signed off as sergeant.<sup>8</sup> On April 27, 1861, J. Tostenbacher wrote to the Secretary of State in Washington:

*"Regarding my inquiries of April 19, 20, 21, and 22, I respectfully ask you to send me passports and certificates of citizenship for the*

*following five individuals who were granted United States citizenship.*

*Descriptions of the individuals:*

*[...] Leopold Burgauer [...]*

*In case you have received these documents, I request the forwarding of these passports. If not, I am subject to your instruction, which of these letters has failed to reach you. It is my honor to be your most humble servant..."*

Probably just after his naturalization, Leopold Burgauer married Louisa Meyers of Lengnau<sup>10</sup> and settled in Philadelphia. In 1847, her mother, Rachel Regina, and stepfather, Simon Meyer Guggenheim, had emigrated from the Swiss "Judendorf" (Jews' village) in the Canton of Aargau to Philadelphia, a move that enabled them to get married. Both were widowed. Together they had twelve or thirteen children from their respective previous marriages. The Swiss authorities refused them a marriage permit. They had been too poor. So emigration was their only chance.

Another marriage had even more significant effects. Rachel's sister Barbara met her stepbrother and future husband on the way to Philadelphia: Meyer Guggenheim, who became the founder of one of the most legendary US "family empires." In Philadelphia, the Guggenheims started out with peddling and later on with the production of cleansing material. However, they soon became successful with the import of St. Gallen textiles (shortly after Leopold's brother Adolf Burgauer settled in St. Gallen starting his own career in textile production). Even more likely than a possible business connection between Meyer Guggenheim and his brother-in-law Adolf Burgauer in St. Gallen was the effect of a joint business Meyer developed with another stepbrother-and-brother-in-law, Morris Myers. Together they opened a successful embroidery factory in St. Gallen. And the connection between the US and Switzerland was still a significant part of their life. Meyer's sons Isaac, Daniel, Morris, and Solomon all spent

## The Burgauer Family and the Migration to the Americas (cont.)

about ten years of their education in Switzerland, in Basel, St. Gallen and Zurich and in 1872 Meyer, together with Morris Pulaski, founded the embroidery Guggenheim & Pulaski in St. Gallen.<sup>11</sup> Their real breakthrough though came with the establishment of a large mining—and metallurgical company and a complete turn of their business interests—before finally they would become legendary art collectors, patrons, and museum founders. The rest is history...<sup>12</sup>

Yet, Leopold Burgauer would not witness much of this rise of his relatives to the top of American society. In 1863, his first daughter was born, and until his death in 1875, he would father five children. Rachel married a Levy and had four children. Jenni (Jeanette) married the merchant Samuel L. Elzas of Maryland. (His father was from Holland, his mother from Germany.) In 1910, the two of them lived in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.<sup>13</sup> Flora married Ferdinand Goldberger, they had two children. (These lines can be tracked well into the present via Chicago, Los Angeles, and San Diego.)<sup>14</sup> In 1910, Meyer lived at his sister Jenni,<sup>15</sup> and Celia married Barry Nachman; they had one child. Except for his minor military career, not much additional information exists about him. In 1866, he worked as a retailer; in 1880, his wife emerged as a widow working in an intelligence office. In 1890, her profession was indicated as fashion shop assistant; her children worked as employees.<sup>16</sup>

Leopold's brother Benjamin, the oldest son and third Benjamin Burgauer in a row, also settled in Philadelphia about 1852. The city already featured a vibrant Jewish, but also "German" life. Thus, in 1838, the first Jewish Sunday school was established, and in 1865, a Jewish hospital.<sup>17</sup> The "City of Brotherly Love" became, apart from New York, a major destination for numerous Jewish immigrants. The Jewish population increased from 500 in 1820 to 4,000 in 1848, and redoubled until 1860.<sup>18</sup>

Benjamin married Mary, a German-speaking Jewish emigrant, with whom he had four children: Morris, David (a publisher, married to Swedish-born Christine, daughter Delphine),<sup>19</sup> Harriet, and Joseph. Following a general request, he received US citizenship<sup>20</sup> on September 30, 1856. In 1860, he worked as a language teacher, three years later as a peddler.<sup>21</sup> Later on, scattered reports appear about the family such as in the Philadelphia Inquirer of December 12, 1874, which relates that Morris Burgauer was arrested on Ninth and Green Street after having attacked a Germantown train conductor; on November 30, 1893 there is an article which tells about a dispute surrounding a horse. Also in the Philadelphia Inquirer are the obituaries of David on November 20, 1906 and his wife on February 28, 1907.<sup>22</sup>

### 2. From St. Gallen to the USA

Around 760 settled Jews, registered between the time of emancipation and 1910, eventually left St. Gallen. Two hundred of them moved to unknown destinations. Of the two hundred families, 5% emigrated to Austria, 15% to Germany, and 10% to other parts of Western Europe; 35% relocated within Switzerland, 10% moved overseas. Among the 280 single men, New York and Philadelphia became a popular destination apart from the 45% who migrated within Switzerland.<sup>23</sup> One of those who moved to the USA was Morris (Moritz) Burgauer, Adolf's eldest son. When he moved to New York in the 1890s, he was still unmarried and met his future wife, New York-born Julia Roth, there; they

married on January 5, 1893.<sup>24</sup> In June, their son Elwood was born; their second child, Ruth, arrived twelve years later. Initially, he worked as a merchant and embroidery manufacturer at the Kahn & Burgauer Company. Later, he would establish the Royal Embroidery Works, in which numerous former St. Gallen inhabitants did their apprenticeships. There, they not only learned the business, but also the language.<sup>25</sup> It can be assumed that New York was chosen as place of immigration not only because of the parental company's core business, but also because of its commercial relations. It seems that the business went well; in 1910, a housekeeper is mentioned in the statistics.<sup>26</sup> In 1921, Morris was awarded citizenship by the New York City Court.<sup>27</sup> Elwood was drafted to the army in World War I, his son Daniel R. in World War II; as of September 24, 1942, he is listed as a "Private."<sup>28</sup> After the war, Daniel worked at "Manny's Music" store in New York, which belonged to his father-in-law, Mr. Goldrich. On August 15, 1965, he delivered to the first stadium concert in music history a drum kit, that would be played by Ringo Starr at Shea Stadium.

Apparently no avid fan of the Beatles, he left the place before the start of the concert, thus missing the best-attended performance (55,600 spectators) in the career of the "Mop-Tops."<sup>29</sup>

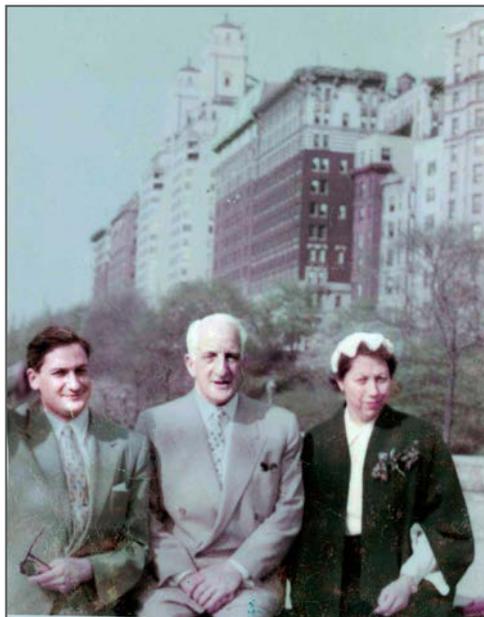
Several other family members migrated to the United States, for instance, Paul David, a grandson of Adolf; he worked as a chemist in Cincinnati and later settled in Libertyville, Illinois, together with his wife Margrit (Margaret) Roos of Berlin. They had three sons: James Otto, Richard Allen

Ueberseische Auswanderung Emigration dans les pays d'outre-mer Emigrazione per i paesi d'oltre mare		19 53.	Nr. 2
1. AGENTUR - AGENCE - AGENZIA	FRITZ EICHMANN, ST. GALL		
2. a) Name - Nom - Cognome	Burgauer		
b) Vorname - Prénom - Nome	Paul, David		
3. Geschlecht - Sexe - Sesso	m		
4. Geburtsjahr - Année de naissance - Anno di nascita	1926		
5. Zivilstand - Etat civil - Stato civile	ledig		
6. a) Heimatgemeinde - Commune d'origine - Comune d'origine	St. Gallen		
b) Heimatkanton - Canton d'origine - Cantone d'origine	St. Gallen		
7. a) Letzter Wohnort - Dersier domicile - Ultimo domicilio	St. Gallen		
b) Wohnkanton - Canton de domicile - Cantone di domicilio	St. Gallen		
8. Beruf - Profession - Professione	Dr. chem.		
a) des Auswanderers - de l'émigrant - dell'emigrante			
b) des Ernährers - de celui qui l'entretient - di chi lo mantiene			
9. Datum der Abreise - Date du départ - Data di partenza	31.3.1953		
a) aus der Schweiz - de Suisse - dalla Svizzera			
b) vom Abfahrtsort - du port de départ - del porto di partenza	2.4.1953		
10. a) Abfahrtsort - Port de départ - Porto di partenza	LE HAVRE		
b) Flugunternehmen - Entreprise aérienne - Impresa di aeri			
c) Schiff - Bateau - Bastimento	ss "AMERICA"		
d) Schiffsbesitz - Entrepr. de navig. - Impresa di navigazione	UGL		
e) Anfahrtsort - Port d'arrivée - Porto d'arrivo	New York		
f) Bestimmungsort - Lieu de destination - Luogo di destinazione	USA		
11. Besatzungspreis - Prix total du transport - Prezzo globale del trasporto	Fr. 1012.65		
Detaill. s. Rückseite - Détails au verso - Dettagli v. retro			
12. Ist der Reisende Auswanderer oder Passagier? Le voyageur est-il émigrant ou passager? Il viaggiatore è emigrante o passeggero?	Auswanderer		

## The Burgauer Family and the Migration to the Americas (*cont.*)

(Dicky, died when he was only five years old), and Steven. In 2002, Steven, a science fiction author and teacher at Eureka College, Ronald Reagan's alma mater, was the Libertarian Party candidate for the US Senate from Illinois.<sup>30</sup>

Apart from voluntary emigration such as, for instance, that of Rolf Adolf Burgauer, the Burgauer immigration to the USA also took place in the context of escape from National Socialism: Gustav and Willy Neufeld went to New York and Cleveland, Henriette Burgauer with her husband, Charles, and her daughter, Fanny Bloch, to New York.



*Eugen and Helen Burgauer and their son Rolf in New York City*

### 3. From St. Gallen to Buenos Aires

Today, the largest known family of Burgauers can be found in Buenos Aires. It all started with an individual emigration from St. Gallen. Carl, a son of Adolf, immigrated to Argentina in 1899. Registered as merchant in the passenger list, it can be assumed that, as was the case for his brother Morris, the family business was also an emigration reason since at this point, Burgauer & Co was already very active both in North and South America.

At the transition to the 20th century, Buenos Aires witnessed an intense influx as did all of Argentina. The city's population rose from 230,000 in 1875 to over a million around 1905 and 1.5 million in 1914. In this period, Argentina's capital became Latin America's largest city. Thanks to its location at a river and port and to a general economic boom, it offered a favorable basis for economic development. However, immigrants from German-speaking areas were the minority; about half of the immigrants came from Italy, a quarter was Spanish-speaking, only 2% of the population was of German origin.<sup>31</sup>

Upon arrival in Argentina, Carl married Emilie Luise Theodore Finck; she came from a devout Catholic family and converted. They had three children: Edith Rosalie, who died childless, Adolfo, and Carlos Eugenio. Adolfo became the first Argentinian president of a North American company, the American Rolling Mill Company (ARMCO, now AK Steel), which in 1909 developed a manufacturing method for 99% pure iron, hereby consolidating its position on the world market. Adolfo married the Hamburg-native Maria Civila Flossmann; they had two children who as second-generation Argentinians still spoke German. Their eldest son, Rodolfo Walter, who had married an Argentinian woman with Austrian roots, worked for the automobile manufacturer Ford for thirty years and participated between 1975 and 1979 in the establishment of the Ford Valencia plant in Spain. By happenstance, he came across fabrics of the St. Gallen Burgauer & Co textile company at a local market there.<sup>32</sup>

Carl's second child, Carlos Eugenio, a merchant, also married an Argentinian woman originating from Germany, Teresa Margarita von der Wetteren, daughter of Johann Walter and Bettina Seeli.<sup>33</sup> They had three children.

Over the years, contacts to the ancestral family in Switzerland tapered off. It remains open whether it had been

possible to provide help and support during the National Socialist persecutions of the Jews. Parts of Gretchen Uhlman-Burgauer's family, Carl's sister-in-law, left Germany for Argentina. Willy Schwarz, Gretchen's nephew, had at first been a lawyer in Stuttgart; after his escape, he worked as legal adviser for refugees in Buenos Aires.<sup>34</sup>

A total of about fifty descendants today can be traced back to Carl Burgauer.<sup>35</sup>

<sup>1</sup> This essay is a chapter from Stefan Weis, "Entirely Unbeknown to His Homeland" The Burgauers. History and migrations of a Jewish family from the mid-18th until the mid-20th century. Diploma thesis, Innsbruck 2013.

<sup>2</sup> Meinrad Pichler, *Auswanderer. Von Vorarlberg in die USA 1800-1938*, Bregenz 1993, 15-16.

<sup>3</sup> Pichler, *Auswanderer*, 37.

<sup>4</sup> Pichler, *Auswanderer*, 209-210.

<sup>5</sup> Pichler, *Auswanderer*, 210-211.

<sup>6</sup> Enlistment, Ancestry.com, accessed 14.04.2010.

<sup>7</sup> The 27th Regiment, Pennsylvania Infantry was founded in January 1861 and was active in April of that year in Baltimore, in June around Washington. Five officers and 67 soldiers fell in action, 62 died as a result of illness. Cf. [http://www.nps.gov/civilwar/search-regiments-detail.htm?regiment\\_id=UPA0027RI](http://www.nps.gov/civilwar/search-regiments-detail.htm?regiment_id=UPA0027RI), accessed 14.4.2010.

<sup>8</sup> Film number M554 roll 15, familysearch.org, accessed 14.4.2010.

<sup>9</sup> Ancestry.com

<sup>10</sup> <http://trees.ancestry.de/tree/19421097/person/799904100>, accessed 7.10.2015.

<sup>11</sup> Gilberte Favre, *Guggenheim Saga. From Switzerland to America*, Lausanne 2016, 42-44.

<sup>12</sup> Cf. Avraham Barkai, *Branching out. German-Jewish Immigration to the United States, 1820-1914*, New York 1994, 54-55.

<sup>13</sup> Census 1910, Ancestry.com

<sup>14</sup> JMH, *Hohenems Genealogie*, <http://www.hohenemsgenealogie.at/gen/getperson.php?personID=I9290&tree=Hohenems>, accessed 14.4.2011.

<sup>15</sup> Census 1910, Ancestry.com

<sup>16</sup> Census 1880, 1890, Ancestry.com

<sup>17</sup> Arthur A. Goren, *American Jews (Dimensions of Ethnicity)*, Cambridge/Massachusetts 1982, 32.

<sup>18</sup> Barkai, *Branching out*, 54-55.

<sup>19</sup> Census 1900, Ancestry.com

<sup>20</sup> Naturalizations Records 1789-1880, Philadelphia, genealogybank.com

<sup>21</sup> Census 1860, *Steuerliste 1863*, Ancestry.com

<sup>22</sup> Genealogybank.com

<sup>23</sup> Schreiber, *Hirschfeld*, 64-65.

<sup>24</sup> Citizen's register St. Gallen.

<sup>25</sup> Fotoalbum Burgauer, Pierre Burgauer bzw. Burgauer & Co, 1860-1960, 6.

<sup>26</sup> Census 1910, Ancestry.com.

<sup>27</sup> Passenger list to Bermuda, 1924, Ancestry.com.

<sup>28</sup> Enlistments, Ancestry.com.

<sup>29</sup> [www.mannysmusic.com](http://www.mannysmusic.com), accessed 27.8.2009.

<sup>30</sup> Library of Congress, <http://lcweb4.loc.gov/elect2002/catalog/1178.html>, accessed 27.8.2009.

<sup>31</sup> Richard J. Walter, *Politics and Urban Growth in Buenos Aires: 1910-1942*, Cambridge 1993, 7-9.

<sup>32</sup> Skype chat of January resp. mail correspondence of February 2007 with Marina Burgauer, a great-granddaughter of Carl.

<sup>33</sup> Citizen's register St. Gallen.

<sup>34</sup> Photo album Burgauer, Pierre Burgauer.

<sup>35</sup> Skype Marina Burgauer.

## “A (Not-so) Odd Summer”

JESSICA E. PIPER (ROSENTHAL)

My first day at the Jewish Museum Hohenems was June 8—I don’t remember many of the details because I was still under the strong influence of jetlag, having only arrived in Europe the previous afternoon. I do remember introductions with the museum staff, and I remember touring the museum’s special exhibit at the time with a group of Viennese art students. The exhibition, titled *Übrig* in German, translates to “leftovers” in English, although the formal English title of the exhibition was “Odd.”

I remember that I got off work early because I was falling asleep, and I had to text my host sister for help with directions because I couldn’t remember how to get back to the home where I was staying. As it turned out, it was a rather appropriate first day—I like to see my summer in Hohenems as analogous to the museum’s special exhibit. I was the odd one, with my connections to Hohenems coming from a leftover past. At the same time, my first day in Hohenems, like so many others, was marked by welcome. The kindness and hospitality I encountered on that rainy June day would continue on throughout my stay. I learned a lot last summer—about Austria, about Hohenems, about Jewish history, and about myself.

Hohenems is a town of approximately 15,000 people, located in Vorarlberg, the westernmost Austrian state. The town is only a few kilometers from the Swiss border—I ventured to Switzerland just by going for a swimming trip at the old Rhine with my host family. Hohenems is much older than a typical American town, with history dating back to about 1600, and unlike my hometown, the houses don’t all look this same. I spent my first few weeks in constant awe of the architecture, the winding streets, and the way the town nestles into the mountains.



Jessica Piper at the Schlossberg (the Castle Hill)

I think some people were amused by my awe at the small town. Once I learned the directions (which were quite simple), I enjoyed my twenty-minute walk to work each day. I studied the street signs until I figured out what the words meant. My German skills—non-existent before my stay in Hohenems—improved slightly over time. I can recognize and read some common words, but I never really picked up speaking—German pronunciation was a struggle (especially when the German I heard was a strong Vorarlberg dialect) and most people spoke in English with me.

The availability of Austrian public transportation surprised me. Although Vorarlberg is largely rural, there are trains and buses, and I frequently took the regional train, called the S-bahn, to towns like Feldkirch, Dornbirn, and Bregenz, all of which are a bit busier than Hohenems. The S-bahn even ventures north to Lindau, a cute town in southern Germany on Lake Constance which I was able to visit.

In some ways, Austria wasn’t that different from what I am used to, having lived in the United States my whole life. I could find all my favorite foods at the supermarket. After a few visits, I could even pass as a Vorarlberger when it came to basic tasks—the words “servus” (a greeting), “danke” (thank you) and “tschüss” (bye) served me quite well, although I always had to explain myself when people would try to have a longer conversation with me. I like watching soccer, which was convenient as Austria had qualified for the European Championships for the first time since 2008. And I enjoyed comparing university stories with many people my own age.

In sharing these stories, I began to notice the many subtle differences between Austrian and American cultures. People were shocked to discover how much I paid for college; I was surprised with how relaxed Austrian students were with getting their university credits. They were astonished that, as an eighteen year-old, I couldn’t drink in the United States. I was surprised by how much people in Austria drink, and slightly horrified at the idea that sixteen year-olds would be imbibing alcohol—when I was at a nightclub one Friday night, I told a friend that I thought the place was full of children who really should have been in bed.

I noticed different political attitudes too; shortly after my arrival, the Austrian presidential election was contested—the election will be held again in December. As an American, I encountered plenty of questions about United States politics, notably our presidential elections and a candidate named Donald Trump. Following the British exit from the European Union, I had to take extra assurances to tell people that I was American, not British—I never thought I’d be eagerly telling people in Austria that I was an American who only spoke English.

## “A (Not-so) Odd Summer” *(cont)*

Issues of politics were also more subtle; Hohenems, for example, was hosting several hundred refugees. Although the refugees themselves were mostly isolated from the town, I nonetheless heard about them plenty. Having worked with recent refugees in the United States, I was fascinated to learn—through informal conversations—about Austrian cultural attitudes toward the European refugee crisis.

My reason for being in Hohenems, of course, was to work as an intern at the Jewish Museum Hohenems. I wrote a blog about my impressions, edited the museum’s English-language publications, took pictures, and helped out with other events. My office was with the archives, in the museum’s recently-opened library across the street from the Rosenthal villa that houses the main exhibition. For much of the summer, the street in front of the museum was under construction, which made for a bit of a noisy work environment. But we persevered, and the street is newly paved with stones that look very nice.

I had a chance to learn about many of the historic sites in Hohenems. The Jewish cemetery on one end of town is home to the graves of several of my family members; a house not far from the museum was once owned by my great-great-great-great uncle and aunt; the music hall next door to the museum was once a synagogue and later a fire station. The area also hosts intriguing non-Jewish sites—including a recently-opened museum in the old Christian part of town and a Muslim cemetery which opened in 2012 and officially belongs to the neighboring town of Altach.

I worked largely under the direction of the museum’s director, Hanno Loewy, and the chief of archives and collections, Anika Reichwald. Both of them are wonderful people and I am incredibly grateful for the opportunities they gave me.

The museum took part in a fair number of events over the summer, most notably a weeklong summer university. Over the course of lectures, I got to meet a number of visitors from universities in Austria, Switzerland, and Germany, and I even attended the sole English-language lecture myself. (I also got asked if I was working on my Ph.D. at one point, which made me feel more important than I am.)

One of the most interesting aspects of my time in Hohenems was my work with the museum’s genealogy database, which tracks the paths of Hohenems descendants who have moved across the globe. I conducted research to add names to the database, and got to look up the paths of many of my distant relatives. Coincidentally, I discovered that my fifth cousin and I were at the same college last year—unfortunately, neither of us knew and we never talked.

Some Hohenems descendants haven’t traveled so far. I met one of them, a man named Juergen who lives in Bregenz. I consider him a distant cousin, although we’ve yet to figure out if we’re actually related.

My interactions with descendants connected to the museum’s preparations for the 2017 reunion. While working at the museum, I began to help with ideas for reunion programs, including programs aimed at young people and at creating bridges across cultures and languages. The reunion will bring descendants from across the world for the opportunity to learn, discover, and form connections the way I did last summer—I am personally very excited to attend.

During my time in Hohenems last summer, I also had the opportunity to meet various strangers who visited the museum—some of whom were regulars from Hohenems, others who were outsiders like me. Among the visitors was a group of Palestinian teenagers, who performed at a concert series in Hohenems and in Vienna—I saw them both times, as I took a few days off from work to visit Vienna myself.



*Jessica with the Palestinian Musicians*

It’s about a 7-hour train ride between Hohenems and Vienna. As I walked around the city—I could walk around old European cities for days—I saw signs to Budapest and Bratislava, which were unfortunately out of my reach this time around. I’ll have to visit again someday.

I traveled both to Vienna and Munich, exploring museums and restaurants, picking up culture and hearing more German dialects along the way. In both cities, I stayed with students from Vorarlberg who I’d never met, but who kindly welcomed me into their flats and showed me around a little bit. I was (pleasantly) surprised by their hospitality—I think Americans are less likely to be so welcoming to strangers. But in Austria I encountered nothing but kindness, as my host families, and their friends and extended families, welcomed me to their celebrations. When I celebrated my nineteenth birthday, which occurred six weeks into my two month stay, I had a lovely group of friends to spend a Saturday night with.

I hope to return to Hohenems for the 2017 reunion. I see it as an opportunity to return to a town that means a lot to me and show it off to others—I might have been an odd American last summer, but I can’t wait to go back.

## In Memoriam

### LeRoy E. Hoffberger 1925-2016

Roy was not a descendant; nonetheless, he was a generous contributor to and supporter of the American Friends. While Roy's charitable contributions were primarily to charities in Maryland, he also made significant contributions to the American Friends. We were privileged to know him and learn from him. His Article in this periodical's issue of September 2010, "You Never Know—a Story About the Life and Ancestry of Cantor Jacob Hohenemser" reports on his first visit to Hohenems, and how he learned about Cantor Jacob Hohenemser. His interest did not stop there. Leroy Hoffberger generously supported research into the story of Jacob Hohenemser, also reported in In Touch's issue of September 2010, and supported a new CD of Cantor Hohenemser's recordings, available at the Museum. Roy Hoffberger's interest in and concern about our Museum showed that we are not just a community of descendants, or a community of residents of Vorarlberg, but a community involving a world beyond obvious borders.

Roy's father started out as an iceman, but wanted better for his son. Roy graduated from Princeton, and the University of Maryland School of Law. As a successful businessman, he chose to become a philanthropist par excellence; he created and gave time and money for programming at nursing homes, schools, art institutions (including cofounding the American Visionary Art Museum, and donating his prized collection of German Expressionist art to the Baltimore Museum of Art). He made significant contributions to the Holocaust Museum and to an institute for Jewish Christian Studies. Mr. Hoffberger wrote a book, *Measure of a Life: Memoirs, Insights and Philosophies of LeRoy E. Hoffberger*, published by the Institute for Islamic, Christian, and Jewish Studies. In that book, he wrote "We're all here for a purpose, and I believe I have fulfilled my *raison d'être*." Indeed, he has done so.

*Save the Date:*

## Hohenems Descendants Reunion

Jewish Museum Hohenems • July 27–30, 2017

## HOHENEMS AND BEYOND

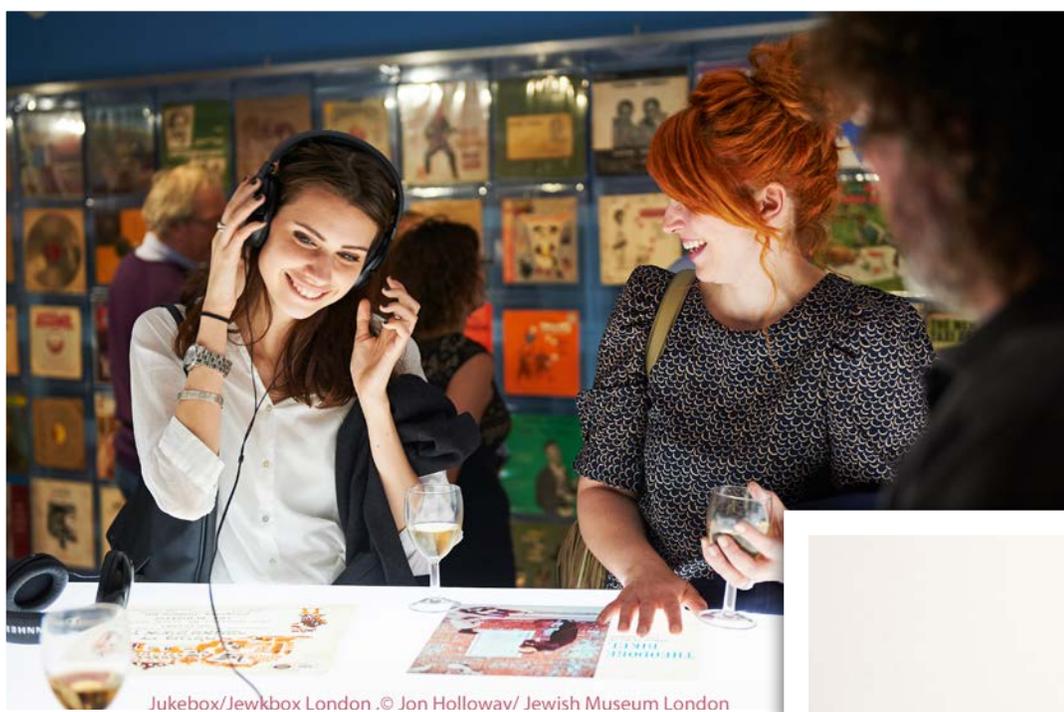


*Construction in the Jewish Quarter*

Hohenems and Beyond (cont)



*Jukebox, Jewkbox!,  
London  
©John Holloway/  
Jewish Museum  
London*



*Jukebox/Jewkbox London .© Jon Holloway/ Jewish Museum London*



*Harry Weil at 2008  
Descendants Reunion*

Hohenems and Beyond (cont)



Claudio Berndt (Rosenthal) from Chile visiting the Museum, posing with paintings of his Ancestors (Joseph and Clara Rosenthal)

entrance to ODD Exhibition



Nicole and Liliane (Landauer) Bollag with Renate Burger with Food from the Landauer Family Cookbooks

# Reunion Calendar

## Thursday, July 27th, 2017

3:00 pm	Local history—Guided tour through the Palace of the Count of Hohenems with Franz Clemens and Nini, Counts of Waldburg-Zeil and descendants of the Counts of Hohenems or join us for
3:00 pm	Walk to the Castle on the mountain with a view of the town, a rather easy walk, but steep; children may participate or join us for
3:00 pm	Easy walk on Refugee trails at the “Old Rhine” at the Austria/Switzerland border where many hundreds Jews managed to escape the Third Reich to get into neutral Switzerland before and during World War II. 1938-45
6:00 pm	Welcome and opening program in the Renaissance Palace of Hohenems
8:00 pm	Reception and buffet in the courtyard of the Palace

## Friday, July 28th, 2017

9:00 – 10:30 am	Guided tours in small groups through the Jewish Museum and the newly designed Jewish quarter also
9:00 – 10:30 am	Children’s and Youth program
11:00 – 12:30 pm	Joint visit and kaddish on the Jewish cemetery with Yves Bollag (Cemetery Association) and Rabbi Tovia Ben-Chorin of St. Gallen
1:00 – 5:30 pm	Boat trip on Lake Constance (lunch on boat) Children’s program on the boat
6:30 – 7:30 pm	Informal Kiddush (Sabbath) with Rabbi Ben-Chorin in the former Hohenemser Synagogue (Salomon Sulzer Saal) and Cantor Marlena Taenzer
8:00 pm	Individual Family Meetings- Family Reunions at various locations

## Saturday, July 29th, 2017

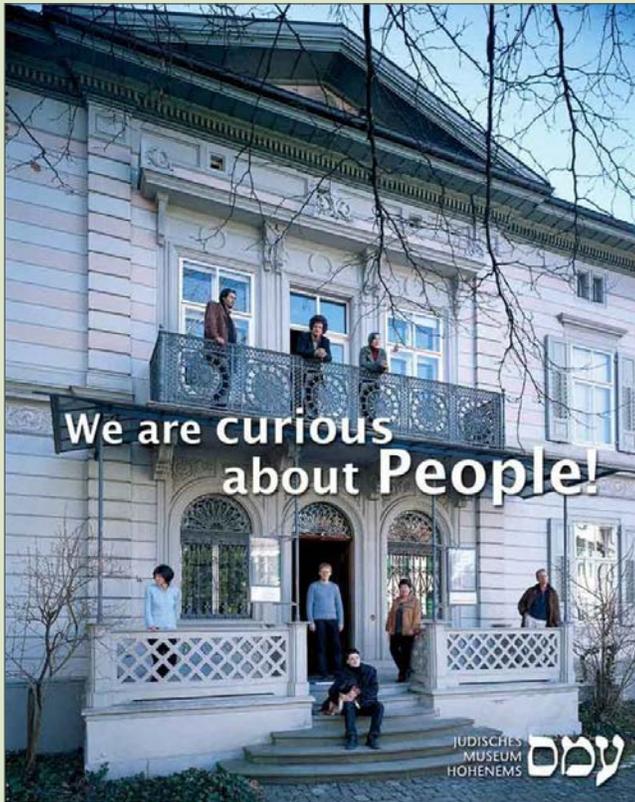
9:00 – 10:30 am	Guided tours in small groups through the Jewish Museum and the newly designed Jewish quarter also
9:00 – 10:30 am	Children’s and Youth program
11:00 – 12:30 pm	Family Photographs
12:00 – 2:00 pm	Lunch with Locals: white table in the Jewish Quarter
2:30 – 5:30 pm	Workshops, story telling, presentations on families and biographies
2:30 – 5:30 pm	Children’s and Youth program
7:00 pm	Festive evening in the “Löwensaal” on Schloßplatz gala dinner with music and speeches

## Sunday, July 30th, 2017

10:30 – 12:30 am	Farewell brunch with music at the Jewish Museum and in the Museum’s garden Stay awhile and participate in the following other activities:
1:00 – 5:30 pm	St. Gallen: City tour, synagogue, “Stiftsbibliothek” or join us for
1:00 – 5:30 pm	Bregenzerwald Visit: countryside and culture, cheese making, wood, architecture and modern design or join us for
1:00 – 2:30 pm	Guided tour in small groups through the special exhibition “The Female Side of God” in the Jewish Museum

### Note:

During your stay: Bregenz Opera Festival: Carmen by Georges Bizet (July 25, 26, 30 and August—on the great stage on Lake Constance) and Moses in Egypt by Gioachino Rossini (July 31—in the Festspielhaus)



The Jewish Museum of Hohenems, as a regional museum, remembers the rural Jewish community of Hohenems and its various contributions to the development of Vorarlberg and the surrounding regions. It confronts contemporary questions of Jewish life and culture in Europe, the diaspora and Israel—questions of the future of Europe between migration and tradition.

The museum also deals with the end of the community of Hohenems, the regional Nazi history, the expulsion or deportation of the last members of the community, anti-Semitism and the Holocaust. Along with these fragmented lines of regional and global history, it is also devoted to the people and their histories and maintains a relationship to the descendants of Jewish families in Hohenems around the world.

The permanent exhibition in the Heimann-Rosenthal Villa, which was built in 1864, documents the history of the Jewish community in Hohenems which existed for over three centuries until its destruction during the era of the Nazi regime. The museum offers annually changing exhibitions and an extensive program of events.

עמם

## JOIN US . . .

### Become a Member and Let's Keep In Touch!

During the first meeting of the descendants of Jewish families from Hohenems in 1998, the idea to found the American Friends of the Jewish Museum Hohenems, Inc. emerged. The association unites the numerous descendants living in America and supports the Jewish Museum of Hohenems in various ways. Annual dues are \$25. We hope to count on you to join today.

Dues can be sent to: PO Box 237  
Moorestown, NJ 08057-0237



Any additional contribution you could make would be very much appreciated and thus enable the American Friends to continue to make important contributions to the Museum at Hohenems as well as to other endeavors designed to contribute to knowledge of the Hohenems Jewish Community as it was when our ancestors lived there.

### DESCENDANTS—THE SCHEDULE FOR THE REUNION HAS BEEN SET—A BUSY AND INTERESTING TIME IS PROMISED FOR ALL. THE DATE IS FIXED, JULY 27-JULY 30.

Over the past several months you should have received information from the Descendant's Committee reporting the progress in organizing a meaningful and memorable Reunion. Now we hope that if you have not yet responded directly to the

Museum expressing your interest in attending, you will fill out the enclosed Registration Form and let them know that you and your family intend to come. This Newsletter lists the activities that are being planned for families of all ages. If you need further enticement read about the experiences of Jessica Piper (Rosenthal) who was the AFJMH intern with the Museum for 2 months this past summer, both in this Newsletter and in the Blog, Letters from the Hohenems Diaspora.

<http://reunion.jm-hohenems.at/author/jessica>