

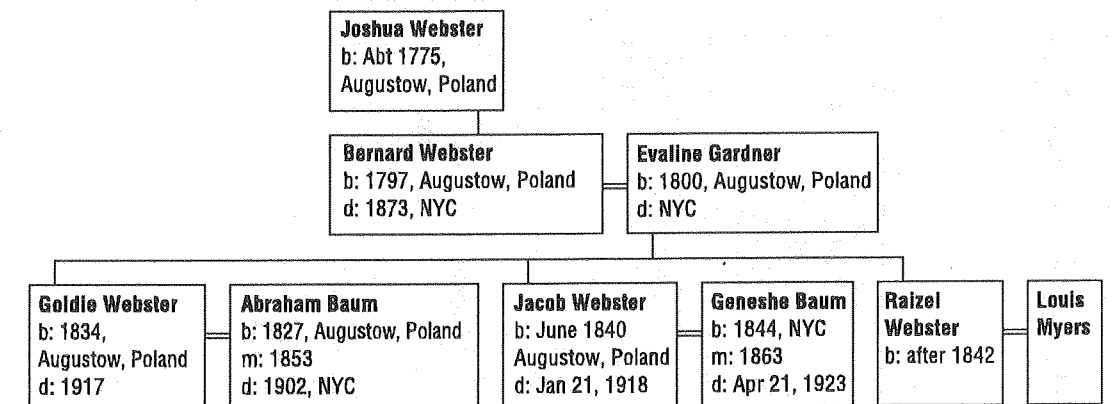
*THE CHILDREN OF
BERNARD & EVE WEBSTER*

THE SAGA OF AN AMERICAN JEWISH FAMILY

Like the Baums, **Bernard** and **Eve Webster** arrived in the United States with their son **Jacob** and daughter **Goldie** on board the *Chester* in 1842. They were also from Augustow. On the same vessel were neighbors David and Eva Baum with their sons Abraham (Abbe) and Israel. The two families settled in New York City, on East Broadway, where virtually all Jewish immigrants lived.

Bernard Webster, son of Joshua, was born in Augustow around 1800. Their three children, **Goldie**, **Jacob** and **Raizel**, all married in the United States.

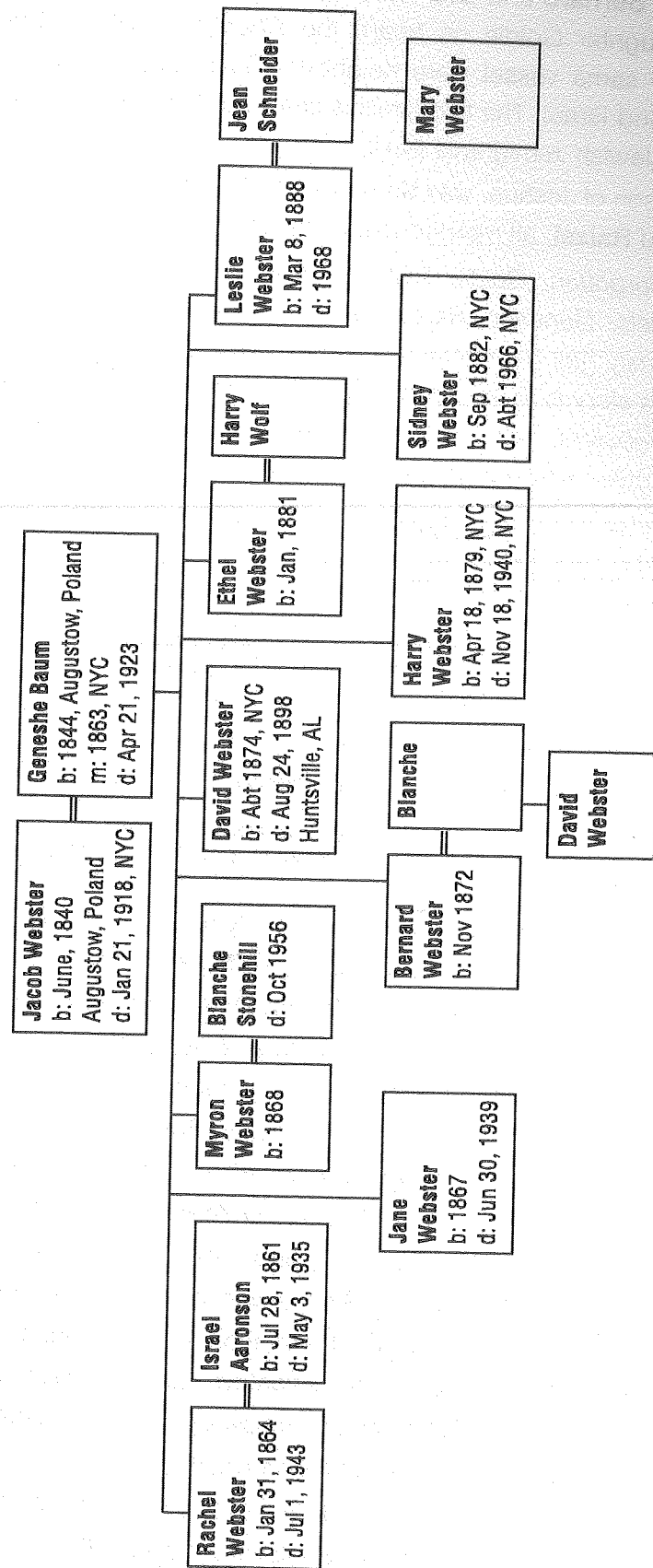
(In case you've forgotten, Goldie Webster married Abbe Baum, and Jacob Webster married Abbe's sister Geneshe. Raizel married Louis Myers. Unfortunately, contact with this part of the family has been lost, although I did trace some of Raizel's descendants. Abbe and Goldie's story is in the section about the children of David and Eva Baum. This section, on the Websters, also includes whatever details I have managed to unearth on Raizel Webster Meyers and her descendants. EK)



Jacob 'Yank' and Geneshe Webster were doubly related to the Baums, and, like all the Websters, had the same exuberant, sunny disposition. They had a large family: first came **Rachel** (Ray), then **Jane** (Jennie), **Myron** (Mike), **Bernard** (Bernie), **David**, **Harry**, **Ethel**, **Sidney** and **Leslie**. Theirs was a family of lively, frequently hilarious sons and daughters, who seemed to have been born with a laugh on their lips and the need to keep those around them happy. Many said that Sidney, Bernie and Leslie had missed their vocations; they should have had stage careers. At parties, they improvised and cavorted for hours on end. Their rendition of *On Ze Bee, On Ze Boo, On Ze Boulevard* was the piece de resistance of family get-togethers. Sidney and Leslie, with derby hats and canes, would bring the house down with this number. Sidney was the life of any party; his introduction of new family members accompanied by a harmonica so small that it was virtually invisible was always a highlight. He and Bernie invented the song *Hupsy Klupsy a la Varni, Shuddery, Shuddery, Kumin Karmi* for the traditional initiation ceremony, and no one, including themselves, had any idea what the words meant.

They all grew up in New York on Lexington Avenue at 94th Street. Broadway above 59th Street on the West Side was called the Boulevard. Around the turn of the century, Fifth

The children of Jacob & Geneshe Webster



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Avenue from 90th to 96th Street was home to squatters in wood and tin shacks. Leslie would be sent to buy goat's milk where Andrew Carnegie's home was later built (Fifth Avenue at 90th Street). The Third Avenue elevated was then run on steam with car barns at 99th Street, cutting off Lexington Avenue from traffic and pedestrians. One had to use Madison Avenue to go further north. A frequent caller at the Webster house on a snowy winter's day was a big, roomy sled equipped with sleigh bells, that stopped by to pick up some of the boys for an outing in Central Park. It could hold twenty people and was driven by two horses bedecked with ribbons, bells and feathers.

The Webster home was always a hospitable, happy place to visit with plenty of food and drink, and plenty of laughs, especially at the annual Purim masquerade. The 'boys', all large men, would dress up as chorus girls in corsets and camisoles. The closets bulged with their costume collection and with musical instruments. Guests also had to wear costumes to the Webster Purim masquerades, and the parties frequently lasted until the wee hours of the morning.



Jacob 'Yank' Webster

Yank and Lena were married in 1863 in Hyams Hall on Mott Street, New York. Lena, like her brothers, was bright and affable. Uncle Yank, as we called him, was a gregarious person. His favorite expression was "Everybody knows me." He visited us each Saturday after services at the synagogue where he was a trustee and chief usher. During services he always wore a stovepipe hat, striped grey trousers, a cutaway coat and grey suede gloves. Once at our home he would partake of a big schnapps from the huge demijohn that my father bought for about a dollar.

Yank had vivid memories of times gone by: he loved to tell us how he waved goodbye to the 69th Regiment as it left for the Civil War.

He had also been a volunteer fireman - lacking a horse, he and his friends pulled the fire apparatus with a heavy rope.

In a poem written by Mallie Baum in 1911, she describes 'Yank' as "handsome and fair with roguish blue eyes and with curly black hair". She tells how he went to Montana and "rode a wild broncho and then went to the Rocky Mountains where he dug for gold. He returned to New York when he was twenty years old." In our family history there is mention of a store owned by Israel Baum in Virginia City, Montana. Could there have been any connection?

We don't know how he managed to support his young wife and growing family in the early years in New York. Presumably he made a living as a peddler, a small merchant or got a job in the growing lower East Side business community like other recent Jewish immigrants. Probably when the Civil War started, he and the Baum brothers, as they and



Standing at far side of table (L to R): Annie Rosenberg, Dorothy Zeman, Everett Ruskey, Burrill Crohn, Lucille Crohn, Morton Webster, Gurtha Crohn, Dan Crohn, Irma Baum, Sarah Epstein, Lizzie Saperstein, Victor Zeman, Leslie Webster, Bernice Webster, Blanche Webster, Izzie Aaronson and Rachie Aaronson. Standing, rear table (R to L): Myron Webster, Blanche Webster, Lena Baum, Amelia Zeman, Harry Geigerman, Millie Geigerman, Esther Reinhardt, Ruskey, Vickie Davidson, Mr. and Mrs. Weisman. Seated at far side of table (L to R): Judith Epstein, Fred Zeman, Becky Baum, Ray Baum, Yank Webster, Geneshe Webster, Edna Lyons, Josh Crohn, Ailine Saperston, Rosalie Zeman, Annabelle Weiner, Sam Theodore Crohn. Seated to the right of the table (L to R): Millie Baum, Joe Zeman, Malie Baum, Sidney Baum, Siney Webster, Jane Webster, Aline Crohn, Myron Crohn, Harry Webster, Wally Stonehill and David Aaronson.

other married men with growing children who needed their support were entitled to do, paid a young volunteer approximately \$300 to take their place in the army. They were witness to the Central Park Draft Riots of 1863 as well as the hanging of innocent blacks.

According to a family chronicle written by Lawrence Crohn, Yank, the Baum brothers and Theodore and Marcus Crohn went to Titusville, in western Pennsylvania, at the end or shortly after the Civil War where they started a small general store. Yank had a small shop in nearby Tar Farm for a while, although he eventually returned to New York City where he became a manufacturer of women's petticoats and blouses. As the years went by, the business prospered and Yank moved his growing family to larger quarters uptown (Lexington Avenue and 94th Street).

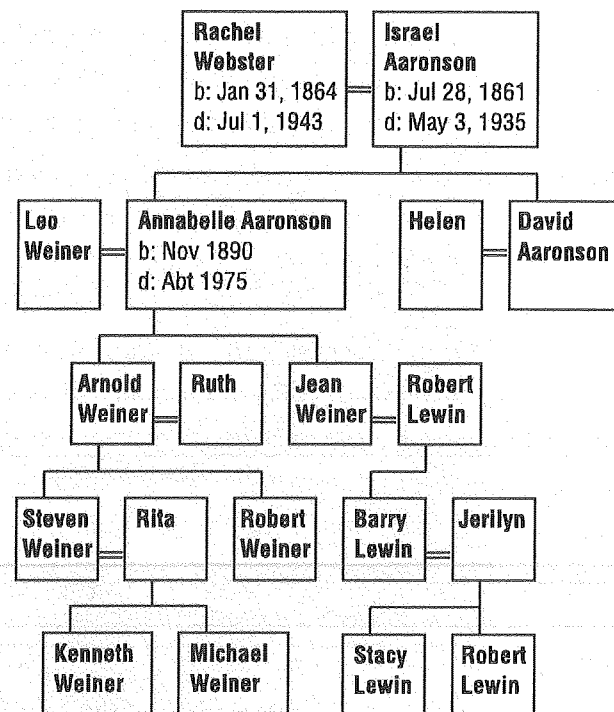
Yank and Lena celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 1913, at Tuxedo Hall at Fifth Avenue at 59th Street, with most of the family in attendance (see picture, previous page). And as for the menu, it looked like this:



Lena (Geneshe) Webster

1863 Menu 1913		
Celery	Grapefruit	Gherkins
	Olives	
	Salted Almonds	
	Consommé en Nidel	
Shad, Hollandaise Sauce		Cucumbers
Tongue, Mushrooms		Parisian Potatoes
	Asparagus	
Capon	Turkey	Green Peas
Cranberry Jelly		Lettuce & Tomatoes
Assorted Cakes		Petit Fours
Fruit Ices		Café Noir
	Sherry, Niersteiner, Sprakling Olysmic	
		Lewis & Shair, Caterers

Rachel "Ray" (Webster) Aaronson was the eldest Webster daughter – a warm, fine person, and a most devoted daughter. She had a wonderful time, as any girl would, surrounded by so many handsome brothers. Among her friends were the Regensburgs of cigar fame, the Stroocks of woolens fame, and Daniel Frohman, a famous name in the early days of the theater. She married Israel Aaronson, whose father Barnard was the first Jewish Justice of the Peace in Portland, Maine, and was himself the son of a Roxbury, Massachusetts rabbi.



According to an undated obituary in a Boston paper, Barnard Aaronson had a collection of Hebrew books and books on Jewish subjects which was donated to Harvard College. Ray and Israel had two children, **Annabelle** and **David**, both of whom inherited the good looks of the Websters. Unfortunately we have lost trace of the family – what appears here was taken from the 1964 and 1979 Family Books.

Annabelle (Aaronson) Weiner was a beautiful woman, sweet and wholesome, a replica of her mother. She married Leo Weiner, a fur merchant, with whom she had two children, **Arnold** and **Jean**.

Arnold Weiner married Ruth, and they lived in Woodmere, Long Island, for many years. They moved to Florida after retirement. They had two sons, **Steven** and **Robert**.

Steven Weiner is married to Rita, and they have two sons, **Kenneth** and **Michael**. They live in Los Angeles, California.

Jean (Weiner) Lewin married Robert, who worked for the Swank Underwear Corporation. He is retired. He also taught at the local high school in Westchester County, where they live, but his avocation was amateur radio. The Lewins have a son, **Barry**.

Dave Aaronson was a devoted son, inheriting the Webster temperament and flare for entertaining. He was loved by all. Many fancy parties were enlivened by his singing (accompanied by his own ukulele) and his tap dancing. He married Helen, a business executive, who was a loving and admirable partner. Dave was also in business: he sold ladies' dresses. At one point the couple moved to Los Angeles, where they bought a motel. They were childless.

Myron (Mike) Webster was the eldest Webster son. He is remembered as an extremely handsome man with luxuriant white hair and chiselled features. His first business was in partnership with his father – Webster Loom Petticoats. After the ample, starched petticoat went out of fashion, Mike established one of the first 'uptown' ladies' apparel shops on West 23rd Street, and then founded the wholesale firm of Webster & Aaron. He was highly respected in the industry, and was director of the Dress Manufacturers' Association. He went with the fashionable set, and sang with an amateur Gilbert & Sullivan group. He married Blanche Stonehill in Temple Emanuel on 5th Avenue. Shortly after their marriage, they moved to Lawrence, Long Island, where they bought a charming home which faced the Rock Hall estate, a landmark mansion in which George Washington spent a night during the Battle of Long Island during the Revolutionary War. The Websters' chauffeur-driven car was a familiar sight in the Five Towns area of Long Island.

Blanche was a Victorian-type aristocratic lady but was modern in outlook. Her family came to New York in 1830. As a girl she lived with her grandfather, Moses Schloss, one of the founders of Temple Emanuel, the well-known Reform Temple in New York. Apparently Moses had lived in Albany, because Rabbi Isaac M. Wise, founder of the Reform Movement in America, referred to him in his book as the "Aristotle of Albany". Blanche's parents, Pauline and Sigmund Stonehill, were married in the Temple after it was relocated from the Lower East Side to 43rd Street and 5th Avenue. It was the first wedding to take place in the new building.

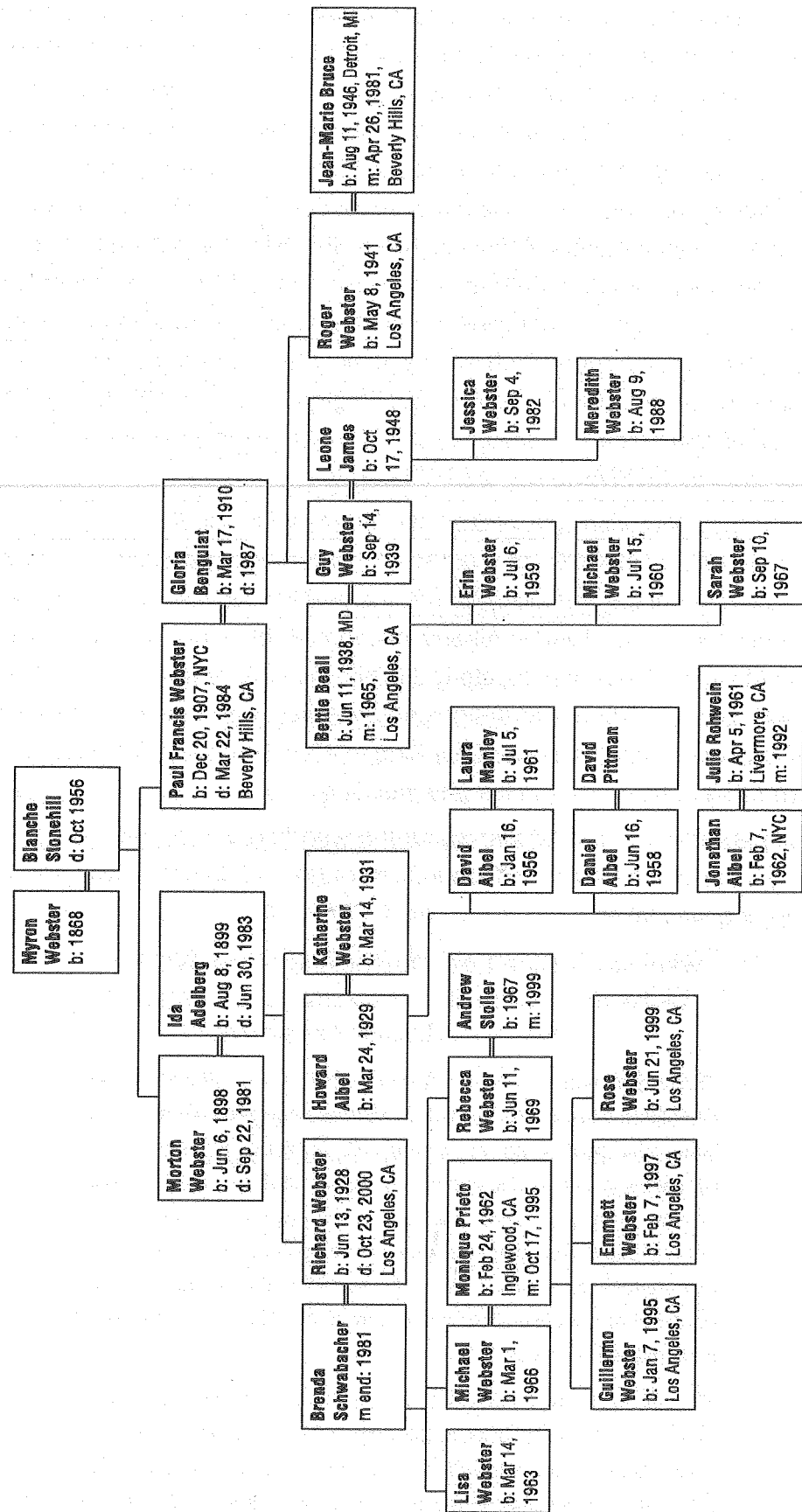
A newspaper article was written about the wedding and appeared on February 9, 1869. It is full of anti-Semitic innuendo. Unfortunately I do not know from which paper the clipping was taken:

WEDDING IN HIGH LIFE: OUTPOURING OF THE WEALTH OF ISRAEL IN GOTHAM – MARRIAGE OF A WEALTHY JEWESS TO A HEBREW MERCHANT

"Yesterday will not soon be forgotten among those of our population who profess the Mosaic faith and enjoy the reputation of being the possessors of wealth, or, at least, a comfortable competency. For weeks among this "upper circle" of the Israelites of New York the coming marriage of the daughter of one of the millionaires of their denomination was being talked about and great expectations were raised as to the splendor, the wealth and the liberality of ornamentation which were to be exhibited on this "the most interesting occasion."

The lady was Miss Pauline Schloss, daughter of Mr. Moses Schloss of the firm of Schloss Bros. of this city; and the gentleman who took Miss Pauline unto himself as his wife was Mr. Sigmund B. Stonehill, of Cheyenne, in the Territory of Wyoming."

The children of Myron Webster



The paper describes the value of the gifts (including a tea set purchased at Tiffany & Co. for over nine hundred dollars). I found it interesting to read that the "traditions of the Orthodox Jews" were not followed in the marriage service, customs which today are common at any Jewish wedding. Mike and Blanche had two sons: **Morton** and **Paul Francis**.

Morton Webster was a member of the firm of Stern Lauer & Co., members of the New York Stock Exchange, and was considered an authority on investment bonds. He was exceptionally handsome, a fact that did not negate his innate modesty. He attended Cornell University, but left after two years to enlist in the Navy during World War One. He was sent to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and emerged with the rank of ensign.

He graduated from the Naval War College during World War Two and became a commander of the Naval Amphibious Forces. He was on the staff of Vice-Admiral Barbey, father of amphibious warfare. Morton received a citation from Vice-Admiral Carpenter, Commander of the Southwest Pacific Operations, for meritorious service in seventeen landing operations.

Morton married Ida Brown Adelberg, a childhood friend. She graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and won the Chandler Prize in Architecture. She was a member of the National Council of Architects registration boards. One of the few women architects of her day, she was extremely active in her field, designing low and middle-income housing developments for the City of New York, as well as the Hudson Guild Project. She was also a consultant for city housing and planning commissions in various capacities. They had two children, **Richard** and **Katherine**.

Richard Allen Webster graduated from the Fieldston School and Loomis Preparatory School. He held a Lowell Classical Scholarship at Harvard, where he was graduated Phi Beta Kappa and magna cum laude. At Columbia University he majored in history, where he acquired a master's degree and a PhD. He spent two years at the University of Florence, Italy, on a Fulbright scholarship, and then received two grants for further study in Italy, one from the American Council of Learned Societies. He has written three books. One of them, *The Cross and the Fasces*, was published by the Stanford University Press.

Richard has taught at Columbia University and at the University of California at Berkeley (1960-1991), where he was professor of modern European history. He was awarded a prize by the American Historical Association. He had a special interest in Jewish history and studied Hebrew at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York City. He also took courses in advanced Hebrew studies at Harvard. Richard was

married to Brenda Schwabacher, which ended in divorce. Richard died in 2000. They had three children: **Lisa, Michael, and Rebecca.**

Michael Webster is a composer, a partner in a recording studio (Paul and Mike's Recordings), and a recording artist. He was educated in composition at the University of California and the California Institute of the Arts. His first musical release was *The Native Shrubs of the Santa Monica Mountains*. He has just released a new album, *Lotus Festival*. His wife Monique is a celebrated painter. They have three children: **Guillermo David, Emmet Raphael and Rose Wolf** and live in Los Angeles.

Rebecca Webster lives with her husband and dog in Oakland, California. She studied dance in college, received a PhD in Psychology and is currently studying to be a licensed clinical psychologist. She enjoys ultimate frisbee, weekly dinners with friends and dog walks. She is married to Andy Stoller who comes from Bethesda, Maryland. He is a professional bass player and currently works at a music start-up company.

Katherine (Webster) Aibel was born and raised in New York City near Temple Emanuel, the synagogue that members of her grandmother's family helped found. Kathy graduated from Wells College in 1952 and received her MSW from New York University. She worked in the Stamford, Connecticut school system for 17 years. Since her recent retirement she works part time for a local community service agency and represents children in Juvenile Court on charges of abuse/ neglect. As a child, her home was secular, and she recently decided to explore her heritage and has joined the local Temple and celebrated her Bat Mitzvah. She takes full advantage of her proximity to Manhattan with its marvel of cultural offerings, and since retiring, she and her husband Howard have become intrepid travellers – reaching the seventh continent in 1999.

Howard J. Aibel is a retired partner of LeBoeuf, Lamb, Greene & MacRae, an international law firm. He retired in 1994 from the post of Executive Vice President and Chief Legal Officer of the ITT Corporation, having served as General Counsel since 1968 and was a member of the ITT Management Policy Committee. He also had corporate responsibility for environment and safety matters, government relations, labor law, and intellectual property and taxes. Before joining ITT, Howard was Antitrust Litigation Counsel for the General Electric Company and, prior to that, associated with the New York law firm of White & Case. He is a member of the American Law Institute, and was a trustee of the University of Bridgeport. He is Chairman of the Board of the Alliance of Resident

Theatres/New York, a past vice president and member of the Board of the Westport Arts Center, and a consulting Trustee of the Nature Center for Environmental Activities of Westport, Connecticut. He holds BA (magna cum laude) and JD (cum laude) degrees from Harvard. Katherine and Howard have three sons: **David, Daniel and Jonathan.**

David Aibel earned a BSE degree in Systems Science and Engineering from the University of Pennsylvania, and an MA in Applied Mathematics from Brown University. After completing his degrees, he moved to New Hampshire where he worked for Sanders Associates which became part of Lockheed and, subsequently, Lockheed Martin. While there, he had the opportunity to work on several exciting projects. These included the design of cockpit graphic displays and avionics for the F-22 Advanced Tactical Fighter, building support electronics for the space shuttle and designing avionics systems for futuristic air and space vehicles. He met his wife Laura, a registered Civil Engineer with an MA in Regional and Urban Planning, in New Hampshire. They relocated to Jamestown, Rhode Island in 1996, where Laura has worked in the public and private sectors on land use and development projects. David has formed a 'product development' company with several friends; they help people refine their ideas and bring them to market. He has an Emergency Medical Technician's license and has joined the Jamestown Volunteer Fire Department; Laura is on Jamestown's Planning Commission. They are avid sailors, racing Shields-class sloops weekly, and sail the local waters on their own boat. They also enjoy skiing in winter.

Daniel Aibel and David S. Pittman have been partners for many years. They contributed to an anthology of stories about gay and lesbian life at Vassar College entitled *Wolf Girls at Vassar*. Daniel graduated from Vassar and received his law degree from NYU Law School. He works for the Department of Health and Human Services, dealing with Medicaid, Medicare and State children's health insurance programs. David is a systems analyst and manager for Zenith Administrations, a subsidiary of the Union Labor Life Insurance Company. They enjoy living in suburbia and are interested in bicycling, hiking and camping.

Jonathan Aibel grew up in Westport, Connecticut, where he became an Eagle Scout. He graduated from Harvard with a BSc in applied mathematics. He worked at Sun Microsystems and is now employed at Rational Software.

WE REMEMBER: THE BAUM-CROHN-WEBSTER FAMILY 1842-2000

Jonathan developed an interest in theater during high school, and found that someone with a hammer in his hand was welcome to work backstage at any show. He continued his interest in production through college. After college he continued to volunteer with Harvard's Gilbert & Sullivan Players and had a brief professional stint with the Boston Lyric Opera. One of his props, a pince-nez, ended up in the hands of a costume designer who had recently moved to the Boston area. They collaborated on the MIT Community Player's production of Gilbert & Sullivan's *Patience*: he got his pince-nez back and married the costume designer, Julie Rohwein. Today Jonathan is a member of a regular writing circle. Although he has submitted some poems for publication, he writes mostly for his own pleasure.

Paul Francis Webster was an extremely prolific screen lyricist: his songs have appeared in some 70 films, won three Academy Awards, and have been nominated for 16 Oscars, more than any other lyricist. Forty of his film songs have been hits, many of them standards, and ten were aired on *Your Hit Parade*.

He was born in New York City, graduated from the Horace Mann School in Riverdale, then attended Cornell and New York University. Leaving the latter without a degree, he found work as an instructor in a New York dance studio. His debut as a professional lyricist was *Masquerade* (music by John Jacob Loeb), and became a hit in 1932. This waltz-song, in Ferde Grofe's orchestration, was performed at Lewisohn Stadium in New York by Paul Whiteman, who also recorded it. It was revived in 1963 as the title song of an album by the Melachrino Strings.



Paul wrote the lyrics for *Black Coffee* (1948, music by Sonny Burke), which was recorded by Ella Fitzgerald, by Sarah Vaughan and by Peggy Lee. In 1949, *How it Lies, How it Lies* and *You Was*, (both to Burke's music) became Webster's first songs to appear on *Your Hit Parade*.

His first Academy Award was won with composer Sammy Fain for *Secret Love* from *Calamity Jane* (1953). Their second Oscar came for the title song of *Love is a Many Splendored Thing* (1955). Webster wrote, with Dimitri Tiomkin as composer, the title song for *Friendly Persuasion*, also known as *Thee I Love* (1956); *There's Never Been Anyone Else But You*, adapted from one of the musical themes from *Giant* (1956); *The Green Leaves of Summer* from *The*

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Alamo (1960); the title song from *The Guns of Navarone* (1961); and *So Little Time* from *55 Days at Peking* (1963).

Other composers also worked successfully with Webster, who won his third Oscar for *The Shadow of Your Smile* (music by Johnny Mandel), the love theme from *The Sandpiper* (1965). It won a Grammy award as song of the year, and was recorded by Tony Bennett. To Mandel's music, Webster wrote *A Time to Love* for *An American Dream* (1966), where it was sung by Jackie Ward (dubbing for Janet Leigh). Tony Bennett's recording was a bestseller.

Somewhere My Love, also known as *Lara's Theme* (music by Maurice Jarre), was adapted from the theme music for *Doctor Zhivago* (1965). Webster was also editor of a book, *Children's Music Box* (1945).

Paul started to collect books, which turned out to be a rather expensive hobby, at that tender age of sixteen. He assembled a small, select library of English literature ranging from the thirteenth through the nineteenth century. His collection was, in the end, much more than a hobby: it grew and grew, and when, after his death, his complete set of the four folios of Shakespeare's works was auctioned at the 25th Antiquarian Book Fair, *The New York Times* called him "one of the few private collectors of our time to have acquired such an outstanding collection."

Paul Webster met his wife-to-be Gloria Benguiat at a Hollywood costume party. She was of Spanish ancestry: the family could trace its origins back to the days of Torquemada and the Spanish Inquisition. Gloria's father and uncle were prominent antiquarians. Among the family's possessions were ancient tapestries, one of which now hangs in the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. Another item was the actual throne of Queen Isabella of Spain. Paul and Gloria were married and settled in Beverly Hills, where their home became a famous Hollywood showplace and a frequent gathering spot for actors, writers and critics. Paul and Gloria had two children, **Guy** and **Roger**. Paul Webster died in 1984 of Parkinson's disease.

Guy Webster graduated Whittier College and went to the University of Copenhagen. He married Bettie and they are the parents of **Erin**, **Michael** and **Sarah**. Guy is an ardent skier.

Roger Webster first attended Chapman College, then Chouinard Art Institute, and continued to study at UCLA at night while pursuing a career in photography. Roger was subsequently hired by A&M records. He moved to Venice, CA, in 1969 and soon started Environmental Communications Ltd. with three partners, which produced visual documentation of art, architecture, environment and social behavior. This business distributed materials to universities worldwide. In 1971 he bought

the first of many buildings in the Venice area. He married Jean-Marie in 1981, and they have houses in Mammoth, Malibu and a wonderful ranch in Ojai, California. He is currently engaged in creative real estate. Jean-Marie is also in the real estate business and spends her time and energy helping animals. Roger maintains his interests in photography.

Jane (Jennie) Webster, like so many of her cousins, graduated from Normal College and became a teacher. She never married. She was a talented amateur painter, but most of all she was remarkably devoted to her parents and family.

Bernard 'Bernie' Webster was a cheerful, fun-filled character. He was also very hard of hearing, and a consummate practical joker. He sold spool cotton for Pollack & Co. and often pretended to be more hard-of-hearing than he actually was, and writing up double the order he had actually been given. His customers enjoyed his company so much that they didn't object when they got their bill.

The family was affiliated with the Kehilat Jeshuran synagogue which had a tradition of auctioning off ritual honors during services. The highest and most coveted honor was to read the Book of Jonah on the afternoon of Yom Kippur. Bernie, who had a limited knowledge of Hebrew, decided it would be fun to buy this prize. The elders were aghast – how could Bernie Webster expect to get such an honor? How could he bid against the congregation's influential, rich members? He did, and won the coveted prize. He immediately called over the sexton. "Give this to some pious old poor man in the rear of the synagogue," he told him, providing the wealthy synagogue members with an abject lesson in humility.

He was intensely sentimental about family, and, funny though he was, his speeches at family parties were always tinged with tearful, nostalgic memories. He married Blanche, a handsome woman, and they had a son who died at the age of six.

David Webster enlisted in the 5th Cavalry, Troop H, and fought in the Spanish-American War in 1898. He fought in Cuba, and although he survived the fighting, he contracted typhoid fever and died in a hospital in Huntsville, Alabama.

Ethel (Webster) Wolf went to Normal College, but surprisingly enough didn't go into teaching. She played the piano and accompanied many of the family's singers. She was community-minded, and became a director of the Board of the Guardian Mothers' League which supported the Pleasantville, New York orphanage. She was happily married to Harry Wolf who was president of the Poirette Corset Company.

Harry Webster also enlisted in the Spanish-American War and was in the 71st Regiment of the National Guard. He was a director of Elks Lodge #1, and remained active until the end of his life.

Sidney Webster was a favorite of all the older and younger adults in the family. He had a wonderful sense of humor, and was a feature attraction at family get-togethers. He could circle a room full of people and spontaneously improvise a jingle about

each one of them. Sidney spent most of his years in the insurance business. His was an Honorary Member of the Elks.

Leslie Webster was the youngest of the Webster clan, and he was the family's only professional. He graduated from Columbia University as an Electrical Engineer. As a senior Lieutenant in the US Navy, he was ordered to Washington during World War One and assigned to the Bureau of Engineering, taking charge of Navy electrical equipment production. He went to sea in 1918 as an officer on the SS New Hampshire and later on the North Dakota. Leslie was an active member of the American Legion's Columbia University Post Executive Committee. During World War Two he served on a Federal Grand Jury that investigated espionage. He married Jean Schneider, the first records librarian at Mount Sinai Hospital, who created the system which has been copied by many outstanding hospitals in New York. They had a daughter, **Mary**.

Raizel (Webster) Myers was one of Grandma Baum's (Goldie Webster) sisters. Although few of us remember her. Rosalie Crohn Kroll was named in her memory. Her daughter, **Annie Rosenberg**, stands out most clearly – she was our mother's (Leah Baum's) first cousin. Though lacking details we have traced almost seven generations of her offspring. Relatives still live in Buffalo, New York.

Elizabeth (Rosenberg) Saperston, Raizel's granddaughter, was called Lizzie by everyone. She used to attend our family reunions; she herself lived in Buffalo, New York and we never failed to visit her when any of us went there. When her husband Louis was alive (he died in his late forties), they lived in a mansion – a real showplace in Buffalo. Gurtha and Moe Roth visited them there en route to Niagara Falls on their honeymoon.

Lizzie was affable, charming and lovely – as dainty and as exquisite as a Dresden figurine. After Louis' death she never remarried. They had three daughters: **Arlene Newman** who lived in New York, **Myra Morrison** who lived in Buffalo, and **Ruth Oppenheimer** who died of a heart attack while still young.

The Children of Bernard & Eve Webster

The children of Raizel (Webster) Myers

