

Acknowledgements

This book would not be possible without the collaboration of many people. It was indeed a labor of love and I want to thank all of you who helped make it a reality.

First and foremost, I want to thank Ellie Kahn from Living Legacies (www.livinglegaciesfamilyhistories.com) for her amazing work in capturing the heart of our congregational family. Her interviews were insightful and brought out the feelings of everyone for our congregation. She put in so much extra time to format this book for me.

Also, I want to thank everyone who took time from their busy schedules to be interviewed for this project. Thank you, Stanley Sigal, Max Rafii, Sy Cohen, Ruth Zakowski, Aurelia and Nate Kvetny, Joyce Lovinger, Robbie and Brenda Morten, Sam Eiferman and Rabbi David Eliezrie for joining me in telling your stories about our congregation. Your stories and thoughts will be preserved forever in this book. Special thanks also to Robin Rubinstein for donating the picture on the book cover, the first graduating class of our Hebrew School.

However, this project would never have become a reality without the expertise of my publisher, Herb Cohen, who took care of all the details of assembling this book in a professional and competent manner, and for designing the front and back covers to catch the reader's eye and make this book stand out on the shelf. Thank you, Herb, for

your patience with me as we worked together on the computer for countless hours.

It is my sincerest hope that this book will be read by everyone who walks in the front door of our shul and wants to know more about the people of our congregation. No matter where you may roam, you can always come home to our family of Congregation Beth Meir Ha Cohen.