

***"THE BRONX" CLUB  
OF VEGAS VALLEY  
NEWSLETTER  
AUGUST 2010***



***Construction of the Cross Bronx Expressway.  
Do you know the year?***



*If you require any information concerning the Club, know of anyone interested in joining the Club, or have any ideas for upcoming events, please contact Co-Chair Leslie Schoenberg, [ls1166@aol.com](mailto:ls1166@aol.com), house 838-3560, cell 702-513-2553.*

*In addition, I am Newsletter Editor. If you have, any articles about The Bronx, New York or any special upcoming events that you would like to have put in the Newsletter, please forward them to me at the above email address.*

*Co-Chair: Sue Braun, [suefromtustin@yahoo.com](mailto:suefromtustin@yahoo.com), 360-2232. Please try me first. If you cannot get me then call Sue.*

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

*August 15<sup>th</sup> – TGIFridays located in The Suncoast Casino at Rampart Boulevard and Alta. Event Hostess: Judy Auerbach. You should have received your invitation already. We are having a local entertainer, Peggy Thompson come to perform for us after dinner. There will be a \$1.00 charge to defray the cost of her dinner. Please respond to, Judy at 242-0727, [jeadancer@cox.net](mailto:jeadancer@cox.net), or Leslie at 838-3560, [ls1166@aol.com](mailto:ls1166@aol.com). We will have the back room to ourselves. Separate checks will be issued and dinner will start at 6 pm.*

*September 19<sup>th</sup> – The Bagel Café, 301 North Buffalo Drive, between Summerlin Parkway and Westcliff. Event Hostesses: Anita Feinstein and Leslie Schoenberg. Our guest speaker will be Jim Snyder of Channel 3 News. Jim does the saving you money segment. There is a short biography on Jim after coming events. After dinner, there will be a question and answer session. Responses must be in ([ls1166@aol.com](mailto:ls1166@aol.com)), by September 10. Please submit any question you would like to have Jim answer, before September 5, so they can be forwarded by Anita to Jim. The dinner starts promptly at 5:30 pm. You can order from the menu and separate checks will be issued. The restaurant has agreed to include dessert for all guests. Gratuity will not be added to your check. \$2.00 will be collected at the door by Anita from each attendee to defray the cost of Mr. Snyder's expenses.*

*October 17<sup>th</sup> – Memphis Championship Barbecue, Rainbow Avenue,  
tentative speaker*

*November 14<sup>th</sup> – Television City at the MGM Casino, dinner to follow at  
Carluccio's Tivoli Gardens*

*Born in Chicago, Illinois, Jim moved to Seattle, Washington, as a child. He lived in the Northwest through college at Washington State University and graduated in 1987 with a B.A. Degree in Broadcast Journalism. Jim worked his way up the ladder starting in Wenatchee, Washington, in 1987; Tri-Cities Washington between 1987 and 1989. From there, Jim made his first stop in the Silver State, working in Reno until 1991.*



*Jim then made Las Vegas his home for three years working at News 3 between 1991 and 1994 as the morning anchor. He then moved to Seattle, Washington, where he anchored the news between 1994 and 1998. "I always thought of the Northwest as my home, but after spending time in Las Vegas, I began to appreciate the fantastic quality of life here," he says. "And now, this is home."*

### **August Anniversaries**

*Rip and Sue Ripkin                      August 17, their 41<sup>st</sup>.  
 Dave and Edith Einhorn            August 18, their 54<sup>th</sup>.  
 Len and Victoria Grouse          August 19, their 48<sup>th</sup>.  
 Barry and Anita Feinstein        August 20, their 33<sup>rd</sup>*

### **August Birthdays**

<i>Michael Brenner</i>	<i>August 6</i>	<i>Gene and Doris Berns</i>	<i>August 8</i>
<i>Carole Pollack</i>	<i>August 9</i>	<i>Allan Blonder</i>	<i>August 10</i>
<i>Bernadine Zabin</i>	<i>August 11</i>	<i>Herb Gerstenzang</i>	<i>August 14</i>
<i>Larry Ackner</i>	<i>August 19</i>	<i>Ray Foil</i>	<i>August 22</i>
<i>Carolyn Jones</i>	<i>August 25</i>		

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL. MAY YOU CELEBRATE MANY MORE HAPPY, HEALTHY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES.**

***The Club would like to send condolences to:***

*Judy Auerbach on the passing of her husband Larry.*

***Neighborhood Living***

Growing up in the 50's and 60's The Bronx was our neighborhood. It provided us with housing, education, and recreation. This small area of a few square blocks gave us something tangible, comprehensive and something very intimate and familiar by which to measure the larger world. Despite the changes going on all around us in those days, the presence of family and friends in the neighborhood made the world seem peaceful, stable and unchanging.

All the neighborhoods shared the same characteristics, but most were unique in their own way, making that neighborhood definable and slightly different from another location perhaps only a few blocks away. Sometimes the ethnic group, which gave its own cast to a neighborhood, could cause the difference; in other cases, it might be caused by the accident of geography, the economic standing of the inhabitants, or the architecture of the buildings.

Mott Haven, for instance, had a large Irish population living in apartment houses built at the turn of the century standing amid still older frame or brick houses, hugging each other as they faced the ever more crowded sidewalks. They were not the only ethnic group in the area; there was a mixture in population. In St. Mary's Park, the children of Jews, Germans, Italians, Greeks, Poles, blacks and other ethnic groups would mingle laughter as they played together and enjoyed each other's company.

Similar scenes would be witnessed on the streets of Highbridge. Here the Irish were also the dominant ethnic group, but a walk along Ogden Avenue, the main street of the neighborhood, would reveal sights rarely seen in Ireland.

A Lutheran Church near 161<sup>st</sup> Street on the slope of Ogden Avenue as it descended from the heights of the ridge along which it ran bespoke of the few Scandinavians in the neighborhood. At the other end of the Avenue, near the Washington Bridge an occasional kosher butcher shop revealed the presence of a Jewish population. However, it was such sights as the Noonan Towers. Apartments, the vast Noonan Plaza Apartments and the people dressed in bright green on St. Patrick's Day, which told the visitor that the neighborhood was largely inhabited by the Son's of Erin.

However, it was not the ethnic character of Highbridge, which set it off from the neighbors as much as it was the geography. Located on a high bluff at the edge of the Harlem River, which separated The Bronx from Manhattan. Most of the east-west streets abruptly ended at the bluff's eastern end. This was a cliff, which almost formed a wall ending at Jerome Avenue below. Only at the northern end of Highbridge was this sheer drop made better by the gentler slope of Boscobel Avenue, which connected the Washington Bridge with 167<sup>th</sup> Street.

Beyond the Highbridge bluff, extending eastward from Jerome Avenue up to another crest of a hill and sloping down farther eastward from that was the area called the Grand Concourse. It took its name from the wide boulevard, which meandered along the crest of the hill. Here, on either side of the Grand Concourse, the vast majority of the people were Jewish. This was shown by the large number of synagogues, which could be seen in the neighborhood. Along 169<sup>th</sup> Street, west of the great thoroughfare, for instance, there were three in a row. The one on the corner was the elegant Adath Israel, and it was the largest of the three.

However, the Concourse neighborhood was set off not only because of its Jewishness, but also by the economic status of its inhabitants. They were rather well to do families, and their status was evident in the uniformed doormen who stood in front of their high class apartment houses.

Of course, the Jewish population of Hunts Point, a few miles away, would also attend High Holy Day services dresses in the best they could afford. They were not as affluent as the Jews who lived along the Grand Concourse. Most of them worked hard for a living in a factory, or in a sweatshop as they were called. Many of them made their living in the needle trades and were strong union men. However, even here, the population was not completely Jewish. There were Irish and Italians in the neighborhood, later to be joined by Hispanics. Although the Jews were the majority of the population of the area, St. Athanasius Church on Tiffany Street still stood and flourished in the heart of the locality.

Just across the river from Hunts Point was Clason Point. Although it was simply the other bank of the narrow river, it could have easily been another world. Clason Point was a broad, flat, sandy peninsula that was just about as empty as Hunts Point was crowded. People who lived in the Academy Apartments, or the brick two-family homes built along the flat streets, shared the neighborhood with farmers, most of whom were Italian. It was not uncommon to see cows grazing along Soundview Avenue near the point where Commonwealth Avenue crossed it, while people hurried to the trolley, which stopped at that intersection to get to work from the attached two-family brick homes along Commonwealth.

A far different sight would greet a visitor to the Belmont area. Hemmed in by Third Avenue, Fordham Road, Southern Boulevard and Tremont Avenue, this compact neighborhood was almost solidly Italian. Very much like Mott Haven, there were turn-of-the-century apartment houses and older frame houses, although some of the apartments were more modern. However, the flavor of the neighborhood was set by the market strung along Arthur Avenue. Here, produce was not only sold in the stores, but it could be purchased right on the sidewalk. The fresh fruit and vegetables, the salami and sausages, and the pastries gave the street a pungent aroma that made the mouth water. All along, the street shoppers would be haggling with the proprietors of the stands, sometimes speaking their native Sicilian or Calabrese.

Coming next month – Riverdale, City Island, Morrisania and neighborhoods in general.

***Our July event at the Golden Dragon Chinese Restaurant***



***Club Co-Chair and event Co-Hostess, Leslie Schoenberg welcoming members to the event.***



***Introduction of Judy Auerbach, Hostess of the August event.***



***Some of the club members in attendance, Gene and Doris Berns, Susan and Allen Blonder, Joel and Jane Niedelman and Natalie Zaplin.***



***Club members Greg Abbott, David Eisner, Doris and David Bluth, Idele Kaplan***



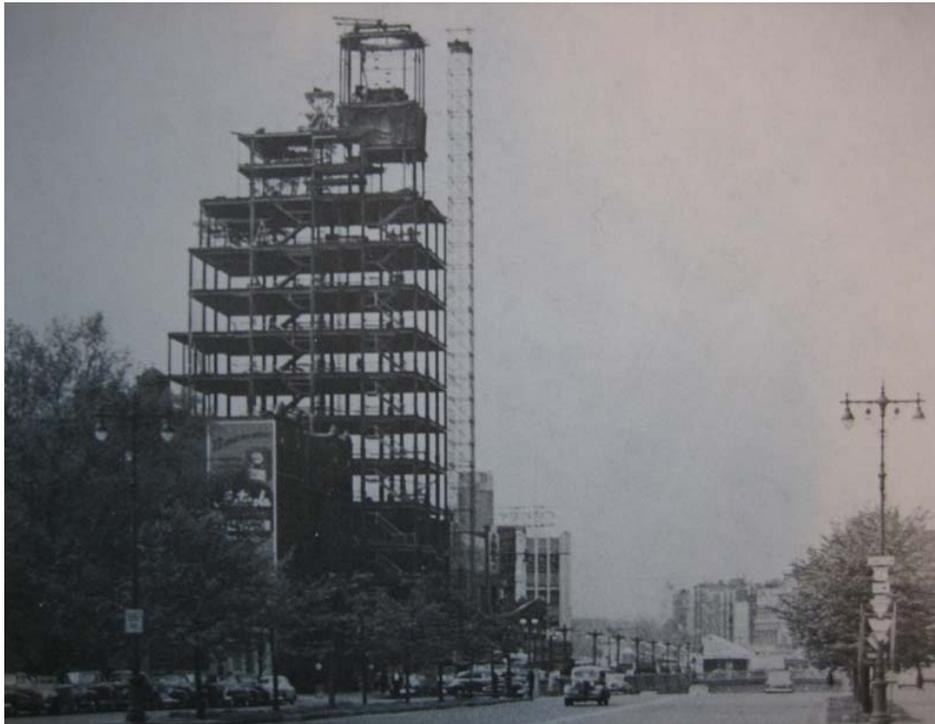
*Where was this picture taken?*



*Do you know what this is and where it was located?*



*Where is this?*



*Under construction at Grand Concourse and 193<sup>rd</sup>  
in the 1950's. Can you name the Building?*