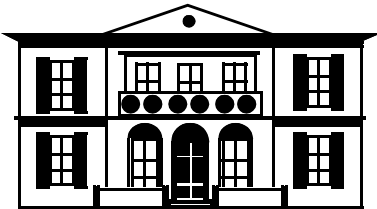


# IN TOUCH

WITH OUR AMERICAN FRIENDS OF THE JEWISH MUSEUM OF HOHENEMS



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## STEPHAN H. ROLLIN

1925 - 2004

Our beloved founding president passed away suddenly on May 12, 2004.

Born in Vienna in 1925, Stephan left Austria as a young student. He lived in Switzerland, where he completed his studies with a master's level degree in Chemistry from the Federal Institute of Technology.

In 1951, he immigrated to the United States. In 1963, together with two partners, he founded EMC Technology, a company that grew to over

200 employees, was awarded dozens of patents and became a premier supplier of technical electronic components.

His interests encompassed a wide range beyond the business world. With his family, he enjoyed his lifelong pleasures in theater, opera, tennis and skiing, and they have kindly agreed to share some of their memories with us. He is survived by his widow Renee, his sons George F. and Claude A., his daughters Claire R. Adair and Nadia G.

Follman, eight grandchildren, and his sister Helene Amler.

Many of us got to know Stephan through his work for the Jewish Museum Hohenems, and as President of the American Friends of the museum. On April 29, 2001, Stephan, along with Kurt Bollag and Felix Jaffe, were made honorary members of the Museum Board. His enthusiasm and willingness to give his all for the Museum was evident to those who knew him. We will miss him dearly. ❖

## NOT JUST ANOTHER ACQUAINTANCE

URI TAENZER, ESQ.

Stephan and Renée Rollin befriended Marlena and me in 1998, shortly after our marriage. When the Rollins befriend you, it's not like you're just another acquaintance. It's more like a love affair.

Our love affair with this smart, handsome, charming and irrepressibly irreverent man began when we were invited to the Rollins' home for an unforgettable luncheon prepared by Renée prior to our trip. It continued after we landed in Zurich en route to the Descendants meeting of 1998 where we coincidentally ran into the Rollin clan at the car rental agency.

I'll never forget that harrowing 50 kilometer drive from Zurich in Switzerland to

Hohenems in Austria as we tried to keep up with Stephan's car. I thought I was a fast driver.

Some of you may be wondering just what it was that, year in and year out, drew Stephan and continues to draw me to this Austrian community called Hohenems. It is a town located in the westerly region of Austria where today no Jewish families live. Like all generalities, this one has its exception, namely our wonderful current museum director, Dr. Hanno Loewy and soon also his immediate family.

Hohenems, a town in the region of Austria known as Vorarlberg, one of only three Austrian communities which saw fit to establish a world

class Jewish Museum in 1991, this with generous support from the Vorarlberg regional government—primarily to attract tourism. From its inception, I believe the Museum represented a reaffirmation for Stephan of the Rosenthal family's legacy.

A major supporter of the Hohenems Jewish Museum, Stephan also devoted himself to the preservation of the Jewish Cemetery in Hohenems where most of his ancestors are buried. It is the oldest Jewish cemetery in Western Europe.

Why do I continue to remain committed to this little town and to the Museum and its many wide-reaching programs

*(Continued on page 2)*

“The news of his sudden death was a real shock and very sad news for everybody at the Jewish Museum in Hohenems. He has not only given us his precious friendship, his great humor and stories, Stephan was also a great supporter and benefactor of the Jewish Museum in Hohenems.

The American Friends of the Jewish Museum Hohenems, which he founded in the wake of the descendants meeting in 1998, are an indispensable part of our museum and our most important friends and supporters abroad.

We will miss him very much.”

*Eva Haeefele*

**President  
Jewish Museum Hohenems**



## NOT JUST ANOTHER ACQUAINTANCE

*(Continued from page 1)*

and exhibitions? Because not only is this the birthplace of my late father, but also because this is where my paternal grandfather, Rabbi Aron Tanzer, had his first pulpit between 1896 and 1905.

His book, published in 1905, *Die Geschichte der Juden in Hohenems und im Ubringen Vorarlberg—The History of the Jews of Hohenems and Vorarlberg*—remains the primary resource for family histories of all descendants.

Shortly after the reunion, Stephan began to appeal for members as well as contributors to our newly minted not-for-profit organization and, yes, IRS granted AFJMH its own tax-exempt status. He even challenged our members by matching contributions dollar for dollar.

Stephan's generosity and skillful persistence in leading the American Friends for the past five years has served to re-energize the Museum. It has also served to enrich our lives and to foster many other

meaningful relationships among hundreds of descendants throughout the world.

I and our 150 AFJMH members will sorely miss Stephan's wise leadership as well as his continually challenging commentaries in our biannual newsletter—"In Touch." I will especially miss our times together, sometimes just chatting about our families, the state of the economy, the latest movie at the Ritz or Stephan's family's history, particularly during and after the Nazi era. ❖

## MY UNCLE: STEPHAN H. ROLLIN (ROSENTHAL)

DR. ROBERT W. AMLER

What a guy!

Stephan had charisma, charm, and wit. His charisma sustained him from his first arrival in America to his successful international enterprise. His charm was contagious and he infected us all. His wit appealed to folks from every continent.

Stephan made people happy wherever he went. Over time, he had many successes; but his greatest accomplishment was what he left with us, his extended family. Every one of us—including the Hohenems

descendants who knew him—carries inside us a little piece of that smile, that smirk, that sneaky little quip, that irreverent laugh, that charming accent, that irrepressible enthusiasm and *joie-de-vivre*.

Stephan had great enthusiasm about Hohenems, the museum, and the descendants' reunion in August 1998. He said the event would help the younger generation become aware of this precious heritage, and he addressed this group directly in his speech at the Hohenems palace. "You should not be

*proud* of your ancestors," he said. "Respect them, yes, but you should be proud of what you do yourselves, and then your ancestors will be proud of you."

Now Stephan Rollin joins the ancestors and we will respect and treasure his memory. This is a sad time for us, but Stephan has prepared us to provide continuity into the future. He knows our hearts will go on, and each of us will treasure and preserve that spark he helped put inside. ❖

## MUCH MORE THAN A BOSS

SHEILA YOST

Descriptors such as kind, considerate, generous, loving, compassionate, brilliant, fun, amazing and incredible only scratch the surface of Steve Rollin.

Steve was a magnificent man, a very proud father who took great joy in his children and grandchildren and loved his wife Renée with all his being.

I enjoyed a special relationship with this very wise man as his secretary and confidant for eight years. And, for eight years he was much more than my boss; he was an inspiration, a friend, and a person who taught me so much without even meaning to. He generously gave to me his warmth, advice, encouragement, and loving spirit. All of

which I so gratefully embraced. Steve forever impacted my life. The time we spent together will stay with me forever.

He may be gone from my sight, but never from my memories. He may be gone from my touch, but never from my heart. I love him and I miss him very much. ❖

## REMEMBRANCES

BY LUISA BRUNNER JAFFÉ DE WINNE

The last time I “saw” Stephan was last May in Hohenems. My father and I had traveled there to see the exhibition “So einfach war es” and to meet the new director, Hanno Loewy. As I was touring the exhibition, my father, Felice, suggested I watched the video of Stephan’s life story. Shortly after, I was sitting in front of the video in the attic, listening once more to Stephan. I probably only understood about two thirds, as I never reached a mother tongue level in German. Stephan had shared some of the contents of the video with me during our previous conversations, and indeed, I re-

membered them instantly as he begun for instance talking about the appointment with the Swiss police in Zurich or explaining the circumstances in which he decided to immigrate to the United States.

Although Stephan, Renée and I had talked at length about opera and music, I did not know that Stephan was a talented amateur pianist. Stephan played his instrument in the same manner as he speaks: passionate and lively, aiming at communicating something he is fond of and finally embodying a perfect balance between his heart and highly intelligent

mind.

Stephan and I only met on three occasions. I visited Renée and Stephan in Cherry Hill before the 1998 reunion. Then of course we met in Hohenems. The third and last time, they stopped in Geneva on their way to Africa and we had dinner together. After seeing him on the video, I promised myself to watch it again during my next visit to the museum in order to grasp the remaining one third. In the meantime Stephan left us; however, he leaves a wonderful testimony, which many of us will watch with renewed pleasure. ❖



### *An Excerpt from the Museum’s Website*

“As founder and president of the American Friends of the Jewish Museum Hohenems, he [*Stephan Rollin*] took an essential part in encouraging contacts between descendants of Hohenems Jews all over the world and the Jewish Museum, developing exchange and mutual projects.

The huge meeting of descendants in 1998 and the exhibition about the Rosenthal family would not have been possible without his contributions.

This summer we were preparing to make new plans together.” ❖

## CURRENT EXHIBITION AT THE MUSEUM A LONG TIME IN AUSTRIA: 40 YEARS OF WORK—MIGRATION

DR. HANNO LOEWY

JUNE 6—OCTOBER 3, 2004

An exhibition celebrating the recruitment treaty between Austria and Turkey signed in 1964.

A joint project by “Okay. Zusammenleben”- Project-coordination office for Immigration and Integration of Vorarlberg and the Jewish Museum Hohenems

The boom in western Europe in the 1960s led to a demand for manpower in Austria. Treaties were entered between Austria and economically weaker countries, such as Turkey and the Republic of Yugoslavia, covering workers from those countries. In 1962, a treaty relating to the migration of Spanish workers to Austria was signed by Austria and Spain. That treaty had hardly any effect. In

1964, Austria signed a recruitment-treaty with Turkey relating to the migration of Turkish workers who wished to accept jobs in Austria. In 1966, a similar agreement was signed with the Republic of Yugoslavia.

Both the foreign workers and Austrian society initially thought that the foreign workers would stay in Austria for a limited period of time. Nowadays descendants of those foreign workers, many of whom have become Austrian citizens, are investing in flats and houses in Vorarlberg. Many of the first generation of foreign workers are getting ready to spend the last years of their lives in Austria with their children and grandchildren.

In the past decades, Vorarlberg was an important desti-

nation for the work-migration. Today Vorarlberg has the second highest percentage of foreigners in relation to population in Austria. This reflects Vorarlberg’s significant industrialization, which has led to many changes but has also been decisive in contributing to its present prosperity.

The exhibition on display at the Museum presents the history of migration into Vorarlberg during the past few decades and includes works by photographers originating from Vorarlberg, as well as one photographer from Switzerland. Arno Gisinger, who has previously done much work with the Museum, including assisting with the Rosenthal Exhibition, has worked in cooperation with August Fleisch. Other projects were realized by Ni-

*(Continued on page 7)*



PROGRAM  
A LONG TIME  
IN AUSTRIA: 40  
YEARS OF  
WORK—  
MIGRATION

JUNE 6, 2004

Opening of the exhibition  
With Kurt Greussing  
(Iranologist, political scientist  
and member of the Directors  
Board of the Association  
"Aktion Mitarbeit") and Eliza-  
bet Hintner Caliskan (bilingual  
youth-social-worker and ad-  
ministrator of her private ar-  
chive in the exhibition)  
Reading with Dragica Rajcic (A  
Croatian – born poet who has  
been living in Zurich for the  
past 20 years)

JUNE 15, 2004

Authors evening with Michael  
Guggenheimer (Zurich)  
The Swiss journalist and pho-  
tographer Michael Guggen-  
heimer, who was born in 1946  
in Israel, visited Hohenems in  
1975 to write a report on the  
lost Jewish Heritage. He ob-  
served the presence of Turkish  
migration embedded in a land-  
scape of forgetting. Almost 30  
years later, he observed what  
has changed.

JUNE 24, 2004

Authors evening with Rudolf  
Zündel (Schwarzach)  
The photographer, graphic  
artist and painter Rudolf  
Zündel, who was chief-  
photographer for the newspa-  
per "Vorarlberger Nachrichten"  
(Continued on page 5)

## UPCOMING EXHIBITION AT THE MUSEUM CANTORMANIA

OCTOBER 17, 2004—  
JANUARY 2005

On the occasion of the Salo-  
mon Sulzer bicentennial, the  
Jewish Museum Hohenems  
will present an exhibition  
about the life and artistic ca-  
reers of Jewish cantors. With  
a sense of irony, the exhibi-  
tion will explore the tensions  
and productive relations be-  
tween traditional and contem-  
porary individual expression,  
liturgy and art, religion and  
entertainment, Jewishness  
and Christian or secular envi-  
ronment.

Starting from the impact of  
Salomon Sulzer both on Jew-  
ish liturgy and his (not always  
Jewish) audiences, on the  
historical development of re-  
form Judaism in Europe and  
the US as well as the develop-  
ment of musical styles, the  
Museum wants to present the  
stories of different Cantors,  
spanning from the duty to  
dream, to professional and  
individual determination.

Cantors like Louis  
Lewandowski from Berlin and  
Samuel Naumbourg from  
Paris as well as the Jazz-  
Singer Al Jolson, the Metro-  
politan Opera tenor, Richard  
Tucker, the last cantor of  
Hohenems, Harry Weil, the  
founder of the Comedian Har-  
monists, Harry Frommer-  
mann, female Cantors and  
wild Klezmerists of today all  
will be introduced in a virtual  
cantor's contest in the Mu-  
seum, celebrating their fa-  
mous forbearer Salomon Sul-  
zer. Some of them are stars,  
like Salomon Sulzer, of both  
the synagogue and the world  
of entertainment and opera.

Salomon Sulzer, who made  
his way from the synagogue of  
Hohenems to the temple in  
Vienna, one of the centers of  
Jewish life and culture in 19th  
century Europe, became a  
prominent focus of public life,  
both for Jews and non-Jews  
alike. He made friends with  
Franz Schubert and im-

pressed his audiences during  
the "Schubertiade." His ap-  
peal caused even non-Jews to  
visit the temple, in order to  
listen to his voice.  
But even Salomon Sulzer was  
a man of contradictions, af-  
fected by the tensions be-  
tween his artistic aspirations  
and the gravity of tradition.  
The Jewish community was  
hardly pleased by his excu-  
sions into the secular life of  
culture in Vienna.

The former synagogue of  
Hohenems, the home of both  
Salomon Sulzer and the fa-  
mous Hohenems Rabbi Aron  
Taenzer, abused as the fire  
brigade building for more than  
40 years, will be restored  
soon and will open for the  
public again this fall as a mu-  
sic school. The Jewish Mu-  
seum will celebrate this event  
with concerts, lectures and  
film screenings, accompa-  
nying the Sulzer Exhibition. De-  
tails will be found on the Mu-  
seum's web site. ❖

## OPENING OF THE SALOMON SULZER AUDITORIUM

OCTOBER 17, 2004

Hohenems will celebrate the  
re-opening of the former syna-  
gogue that will become the  
home of the Hohenems Public  
Music School on October 17,  
2004.

After 40 years of being used  
as a fire brigade building, the  
synagogue has been restored  
over the past year to its old  
shape and style by the profes-  
sional architects Ada and  
Reinhard Rinderer (an Israeli-  
Vorarlberg couple both profes-  
sionally and in life).

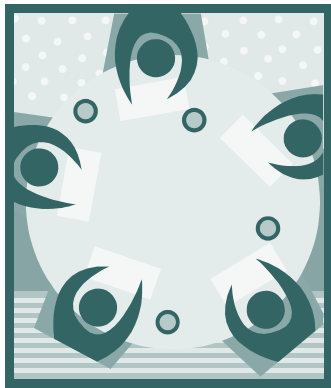
They have respected the irre-  
deemable loss by avoiding  
any misleading reconstruction  
of the apsis that once held  
the Torah, but have brought  
to life again the marvelous  
well-balanced space of the  
synagogue hall, the Salomon  
Sulzer Auditorium.

The Jewish Museum  
Hohenems is enthusiastic  
about the prospect of being  
able to help both the munic-  
ipality and the Music School to  
make the building a part of  
everyday life and culture of  
Hohenems, and – from time

to time – a center of Jewish  
discourse. In July, the Associa-  
tion of Jewish Students from  
Germany will meet in  
Hohenems on the occasion of  
the 100th anniversary of Theo-  
dor Herzl's death for a critical  
examination of the impact of  
his ideas and the contemporary  
situation in Israel and Pales-  
tine. Fortunately, part of the  
program, can already take  
place in the Sulzer auditorium,  
and will be the first Shabbat  
service there after more than  
fifty years. This will be a day to  
remember. ❖

## SPRING MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC BOARD

DR. HANNO LOEWY



On May 17, 2004, the Academic Board of the Jewish Museum held its spring meeting. The discussion of the Board, now chaired by Mag. Bernhard Purin, director of the Jewish Museum of Munich, focused on the long term planning for annual programs, presented by Dr. Hanno Loewy and the staff of the Museum.

The long-term plan is based on the premise that the Museum will, in order to survive in the future, as a prominent place of discourse about Jewish history and culture, have to extend its activities in three dimensions:

The Museum has to establish its role on the edge of three European countries, namely Austria, Germany and Switzerland, to address issues that engage people in all three countries.

The Museum must address common issues of contemporary Jewry in Europe, issues crucial for a Jewish future and the question of Jewish-

non Jewish relations. This is possible only in the context of a broader perspective of multiculturalism, migration and integration in a changing Europe and a world of globalization.

The Museum should serve as a distinctive focus of intellectual culture in the region. This should include the development of the Museum and its cafeteria as an active public space for discourse.

The program for the next years will focus on subjects that allow different exhibitions and public events centering on the following ideas:

In 2004, the Museum is presenting exhibitions and events about people, biographies and memories.

In 2005, the Museum will focus on the world of collectors, objects and obsessions, presenting exhibitions about private collectors and the role of academic researchers such as Aron Taenzer, who published his seminal study about the Jews of Hohenems in 1905. It will also present a collection of anti-Semitic objects, brought together by a Jewish collector in Antwerp. In 2006, the Museum will draw the attention of its visitors to landscapes of dreams and locations of wishes, such as the Alps that have been a source of ambivalent Jewish dreams and thoughts for many years, and Palestine, that was or became both a Jewish dream and a Jewish

nightmare.

In 2007, the Museum will explore the power and meaning of borders, their separating force and the existential conflicts about them. The Board discussed these proposals in depth, approved them in principle, and contributed significantly to their further development.

The Board also discussed several activities the Museum has started in cooperation with descendants, such as reorganizing the website and the database, including the information about genealogy and biographies, and a second descendants meeting to take place in the future.

The Board also approved a proposal for the process of necessary renovations of the permanent exhibition. That will be the main issue at the Board's next meeting in the fall. The Museum looks forward to a continuing and fruitful collaboration.

The evening of the Board meeting was devoted to a reception given by the Museum, that included Susan and Zachary Shimer from the American Friends of the Jewish Museum Hohenems, as well as Professor Thomas Albrich, historian at the University of Innsbruck, and several members of the Board of the Association of Patrons of the Jewish Museum of Hohenems (the Verein). ❖

## PROGRAM A LONG TIME IN AUSTRIA: 40 YEARS OF WORK— MIGRATION

*(Continued from page 4)*

for many years, accompanied a group of "foreign workers" on their journey from Vorarlberg to Istanbul in 1977. The resultant photographic project was first shown in 1982 under the title "Als Tschusch in the chaplain's house in Dornbirn. It was then bought by the "Rupertinum" in Salzburg and subsequently published in the "Camera Austria" in September 1983.

JULY 1, 2004

Authors evening with August Fleisch and Arno Gisinger "Between the Chairs" – This is the title of a touring exhibition which August Fleisch and Arno Gisinger created 15 years ago and which depicts the situation of working migrants in Vorarlberg. Together with one of the protagonists of that time, the project will be presented and discussed from the present day point of view.

JULY 8, 2004

Guided tour through the Jewish Museum Hohenems, with focus on migration-history and related topics by Eva Grabherr (Dornbirn). Eva Grabherr is a culture-scientist and a Judaist. She is also the founding-director of the Jewish Museum Hohenems and at present directs the "Okay. Zusammen Leben", which is the Project-coordination office for Immigration and Integration in Vorarlberg. ❖



## REUNION SUMMER 2006

Stephan Rollin, our late president, put an item in the last issue of *In Touch* suggesting another reunion in the summer of 2006; I know he wanted another Descendants Reunion soon—he had originally talked about 2005.

We would like to brainstorm this idea via email and telephone contact with descendants of a number of families. Input regarding when it should be held and what subjects should be covered would be invaluable.

Perhaps the Reunion should include sessions concerning (a) the Museum, the Synagogue, and the Jewish Quarter and what happened to them; (b) other Jewish communities with which Hohenems had a connection, e.g. Meran; (c) discussions of common interests; (d) languages; (e) the development of Salomon Sulzer's music; and (f) Jewish music today. These are only possible subjects for such a meeting.

We hope you will lend your thoughts and ideas to this project by emailing Sue Shimer at [sshimer@optonline.net](mailto:sshimer@optonline.net) or by phone at (914) 273 3107. ❖

## SO EINFACH WAR DASS

"So Einfach War Dass" [How Easy was That], Jewish Childhood and Youth in Austria, Switzerland and Germany, which consists of wonderful oral histories, was on display at the Museum from March 21 through May 23 of this year and is now on tour. It is opening in Augsburg, Germany on June 27, and from there will travel to Munich and then to Fürth. Our next Newsletter will contain more about this wonderful exhibit. ❖

## BOOK PROJECT "....AN ILLUSION?" THE HOHENEMS SYNAGOGUE A HOUSE FOR PRAYER – A HOUSE FOR FIRE BRIGADES – A HOUSE FOR CULTURE

EDITED BY JOHANNES INAMA & DR. HANNO LOEWY



With the help of the American Friends of the Jewish Museum Hohenems, the Museum is editing a book about the heart of Jewish Hohenems, the synagogue.

The center of the Jewish Quarter of Hohenems, the synagogue, robbed by the Nazis in 1938 and used as a fire brigade building between 1955 and 2001, will reappear in its old shape with a new purpose in the fall of

2004. That will be 50 years after the last Jews, mostly Eastern European DP's and survivors of the camps, left Hohenems in 1954.

Richly illustrated, the book will present the history of the famous synagogue that was the home of both cantor Salomon Sulzer and Rabbi Aron Taenzer. This history includes information about the development of the community as well as the architectural solutions found for changing spiritual needs and communal rituals in the framework of Jewish tradition. It will also present the history of the building, as such, until its partial demoli-

tion and reshaping in 1954-55, as well as the process of robbing, destruction and, ultimately, hesitant restitution in the years since 1938. After 2001, the synagogue was explored through artistic means in a series of exhibitions and events organized by the Jewish Museum. These artistic contributions will be part of the documentation as will be the sensitive restoration by Ada and Reinhard Rinderer that will be completed this year. In the future, the building will be used for the regional Public Music School and as a focus for the revitalization of the Jewish Quarter of Hohenems. ❖

## RECENT ACTIVITIES OF THE AMERICAN FRIENDS

The American Friends have agreed to pay the costs of a translation into English of the History of the Synagogue. The book is described in the *In Touch* article at the top of this page.

The American Friends have also agreed to underwrite the cost to the Museum of coordinating its four databases, so that all information about the Hohenems descendants is contained in one database, which would then be available on the web, and could be updated regularly for all our benefits.

As a result of the generous contributions of so many of you, we have sufficient funds in the treasury for both of these projects. We hope, of course, that the Museum will

be able to turn to us for further assistance when the need arises in the future. The Museum obtains funding from the government of Vorarlberg and the city of Hohenems for its operating expenses. However, there are projects, such as these, which are not funded by the governments. Money is also received from individuals in Europe and elsewhere who visit the Museum and appreciate the work that it is doing. However, that source is not enough for all the projects that the Museum wishes to undertake. Some projects, such as the two we have recently agreed to underwrite, are of particular importance to the American Friends- English translations and descendants' databases.

Rather than continually sending letters requesting money, we hope that you will keep us and the Museum in mind at all times and, when the occasion arises to write an extra check, do think of AFJMH. Contributions are tax deductible.

Dr. Hanno Loewy anticipates being in New York the last week of October and we are presently working with the Leo Baeck Institute in New York focusing on the possibility of a joint event celebrating the publication of the book on the History of the Synagogue. We contemplate that Dr. Loewy will make a presentation about the Synagogue and hope to have a short recital of music by Dr. Salomon Sulzer. Details will be sent to you as soon as they are confirmed. ❖

## GROWING INTEREST

DR. HANNO LOEWY



The Jewish Museum proudly presents its new figures of visitors and guests.

Interest in the Museum has grown considerably in the last

months. In the first five months of 2004, more than 4,500 visitors and guests came to the exhibits and events, almost equaling the total for all of 2003.

More than 500 guests alone attended the concert with Giora Feidman and the Music School of Hohenems, and 350, mostly young people, enjoyed Wladimir Kaminer and the "Russendisko," an event combining satirical literature, modern Klezmer Ska, Gypsy Punk and Balaleika-Rock'n Roll in an unforgetta-

ble experience.

The start of the new exhibition about migrant workers in Austria broke records of past openings and attracted more than 350 people. The exhibition, presenting biographical and personal views on 40 years of migration and the problems of integration, gave surprising insights into the history of the Jewish Quarter of Hohenems, since that Quarter has served for more than thirty years as the home for mostly Turkish foreign workers and immigrants. ❖

## CELEBRATING A MILESTONE



Felix Brunner Jaffe, an honorary member of the Museum's Board, turned

80 years old on June 25, 2004.

A retired professor of geology, who was born in Berlin and has lived all over the world, Professor Jaffe has not forgotten his family roots, both as a Brunner and a Rosenthal. He has been a super active supporter of the Museum, as well as an instrumental force, along with Stephan Rollin, that brought about the 1998 Reunion of Descendants. On a side note, we must add that he has been most helpful in supplying information to the American Friends and has contributed to our Newsletter.

While not an American, although we would love to claim him as one of our own, his work for the Museum gives all of us a great reason to express our appreciation and extend our best wishes. ❖

## HOLOCAUST VICTIMS

The Museum wants to honor those descendants of Hohenems' families who died during the Holocaust. Currently, Julie Levin is working on a list of Bernheimer descendants. Sue Shimer has prepared a list of Rosenthal descendants.

If you are aware of any such persons, please email their names to Sue Shimer at [sshimer@optonline.net](mailto:sshimer@optonline.net) and if available include the names of their parents and their dates of birth and death. We are most anxious to have the list include members of all the families who were lost, and not just have a list from these two families. ❖

## DATABASE INTEGRATION IS KEY



With the help of the American Friends of the Jewish Museum Hohenems and individual descendants of Jewish

Hohenems, the Museum intends to coordinate its multiple databases.

These databases resulted from several projects, which

cannot be coordinated simply, but must be if they are to be useful for the future. Further, much information still waits on paper as a result of numerous conversations, visits and meetings of descendants and research by the Museum staff. The final coordinated database should contain genealogical and biographical information and will be available on the Museum's web site.

One coordinated database will permit much quicker processing of incoming and – what is particularly important – outgoing information, since the Museum receives more and more inquiries from descendants from all over the world. As soon as the necessary funds are secured, the Museum will integrate all the data it has in one platform. ❖

## A LONG TIME IN AUSTRIA

*(Continued from page 3)*

klaus Walter, Rudolf Zündel, and the Jewish-Swiss photographer, Michael Guggenheimer, all of whom reexamined their photographic views of the past thirty years in the light of the contemporary situation.

In the permanent exhibition space at the museum, docu-

ments on the Jewish history of Hohenems have been moved aside slightly in order to make room for documents and photographs from the private archives of Yilmaz Yerit, Elizabeth Hintner-Caliskan, Erich Brüstle and Ali Gedik, which depict Vorarlberg's migration history from each person's own specific biographical point of view.

In addition, the permanent exhibition on the history of the Jews of Hohenems will be juxtaposed with some of the key objects from the most recent migration period. Thus, the visitor can see an interesting connection between the past and the present. ❖



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

The main topics of Jewish history are made apparent from the point of view of various people. Topical questions of dealing with foreign cultures, religiously traditional communities and social minorities are brought into relation with historical topics.

Reflection about the work of the museum and its integration into international discourse about dealing with Jewish history are of immense importance as this is a Jewish museum in a province where there is no longer any Jewish community remaining and in a Jewish quarter and house whose last Jewish inhabitants were deported and killed. The consolidation of the institution in the region and with the descendants of Jewish families is essential for the activities of the Jewish Museum of Hohenems and its continuing development. ❖



We're on the Web!

<http://www.jm-hohenems.at>

## JOIN US . . . BECOME A MEMBER AND LET'S KEEP *IN TOUCH!*



On the occasion of the 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.

Our annual dues are \$25. We hope we can count on you to become a member today. Due payments can be made 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. ❖