

Call for stories -- How to share your Balabusta stories, recipes and other anecdotes rich in family tradition and Jewish Heritage

THE BALABUSTA PROJECT

This email is being sent to you because I or someone you know feels that you have a story to tell -- not just any story . . . a story about a Balabusta.

WHAT'S THIS ABOUT?

Ever since I can remember, my Mom, Grandmother and others, would talk about how a particular woman was a real Balabusta. At a young age I learned that being called a Balabusta was an honor. That a woman who was called a Balabusta was not only a great homemaker, Mom, wife, Bubbie, cook, baker or seamstress -- she was also a woman of valor, a motivator, ingenious, the family glue, the one who helped hold it all together regardless of the times.

There are many stories to be told and I want you to share them with me so I can compile them and share them with the world. The stories might be about your mom, grandmother, great grandmother, great great grandmother, sister, daughter, aunt or friend. And, if you happened to be married to a Balabusta, please tell us about her too.

CATEGORIES

Categories to submit stories and write about include . . . household tips, ingenious ideas, unforgettable recipes, family traditions, historical tidbits, family legends, amazing chronicles, letters written during war time, incredible strength and determination shown during the holocaust, not-to-be forgotten anecdotes, handling adversity, favorite quotes, tips on raising children, sisterhood stories and the Balabusta(s) behind them, handling delicate situations -- family and otherwise, humor that saved the day, undeniable wisdom and if you are married, advice to keep your husband happy.

You may have many stories to tell about one Balabusta, or stories to tell about many Balabustas. You may submit as many stories, recipes, anecdotes, quotes and other interesting items as you'd like. And, you can give a title to each submission . . . like "Grandma Sallie's Best Brisket" . . . "Aunt Bea and the Day We'll Never Forget" . . . "Sophie's Secret for Cleaner Floors" . . . Everyone will be given credit for what they write or submit. Some of you may want to submit pictures of yourself or your Balabusta for inclusion in the Balabusta project. A special panel will review what is submitted and selected for inclusion this project.

WHO SHOULD SUBMIT STORIES?

You, and/or anyone who knows a Balabusta . . . Grandchildren, sons, daughters, husbands, mothers, fathers, other family members, your friends and congregation -- all of us can now have the chance to share the rich legacy of the Balabustas. You can send your submissions to me via email at Linda@LindaBlackman.com. Or, by fax at 847-550-9938. Or regular mail -- that address is below. Please submit your stories, recipes and other important memories of your Balabusta to me by December 31, 2005.

Someone from London told me she was waiting for me to create this email so she could send it to family and friends around the world who want to make contributions to Balabusta. Yes! Please feel free to email this to anyone who you feel will want to submit a story to this lasting legacy. And, if there's someone you know who doesn't have email and should see this, please print off a copy of this for him or her.

A CLOSING THOUGHT

Before I close this note, two thank yous. A special thanks to my husband who gave me the idea for the Balabusta project. Last year when his Dad died, my husband started to talk about the great stories his Dad would tell and how we never wrote any of them down . . . including the ones he used to tell about his mom and what a Balabusta she was. May the memory of Papa Harold and all the Balabustas we know live forever in our hearts and through the stories we share. L'dor v'dor. Thank you for taking the time to read this. G-d willing, this project will provide a lasting legacy for all of us, our children and their children.

With much gratitude, Linda

P.S. You may have some tips, etc. of your own that should be a part of this project . . . and if that's the case, please don't be shy! Send over those Balabusta tips and thoughts. Call or email me with any questions.

Linda Blackman, CSP

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- PRESENTATION SKILLS
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