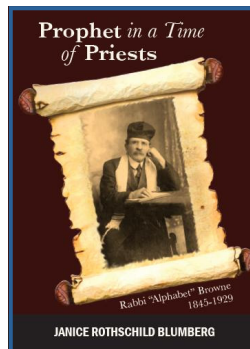


New Books of Interest

Janice Rothschild Blumberg, *Prophet in a Time of Priests: Rabbi "Alphabet" Browne, 1845-1929*



Between his arrival in the United States during post-Civil War Reconstruction and his death at the onset of the Great Depression, he grabbed headlines as a rabbi, journalist, attorney, and political activist, all in the pursuit of justice. He was widely known as an authority on the Talmud and the life of Jesus, and highly acclaimed nationally for his public lectures which one reviewer thought to be wittier than Mark Twain's. While serving congregations in numerous cities, among them New York and Atlanta, Edward Benjamin Morris Browne published the South's first Jewish-interest newspaper; defended an elderly immigrant wrongfully convicted for murder, delivered

opening prayers in both houses of Congress, served as an honorary pall bearer for President Ulysses S. Grant, helped Benjamin Harrison win the presidency; bullied Presidents William McKinley, Theodore Roosevelt and William Howard Taft to establish a Jewish chaplaincy for the United States military, was honored by Sultan Abdul Hamid of the Ottoman Empire, and discussed Europe's "Jewish problem" with Pope Leo XIII. Why, then, did his name disappear from view? Was he victim or visionary, heretic or hero? Armed with a personal interest and unrelenting curiosity, Janice Rothschild Blumberg has meticulously researched, carefully documented and deftly articulated the life of this controversial American rabbi.

Published by Apprentice House, Loyola University Maryland (www.apprenticehouse.com).

Kay Goldman wins Rodenberger Prize

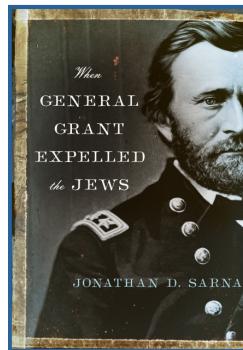


Texas Tech University Press (www.tupress.org) has awarded Kay Goldman the inaugural Lou Halsell Rodenberger Prize in Texas History and Literature. Goldman will receive a \$1,000 award and publication of her manuscript "Designing Women, Texas Style: The Frankfurt Sisters of Dallas and Page Boy Maternity." The manuscript, which will be published in spring 2013, tells the story of three Texas sisters who revolutionized the design of maternity fashion. The sisters launched a small firm in Depression-era Dallas that eventually became the internationally known Page Boy Maternity, Inc. Their designs dressed many Hollywood stars including Elizabeth Taylor, Jayne Meadows, and Florence Henderson. The Rodenberger Prize was created in honor of the late Dr. Rodenberger of Abilene, a professor of English at McMurry University. It is designed to award the "the best manuscript on or by a woman whose writing illuminates Texas history, culture, and letters, especially in West Texas and the Texas Border Region."

Jonathan D. Sarna, *When General Grant Expelled the Jews*

"Ulysses S. Grant's order expelling Jews from his war zone has long helped insure his eternal disgrace. Supposedly, the drunken, bloodthirsty crook was

also an anti-Semite! Jonathan Sarna's excellent, painstaking reevaluation of what really happened helps rescue Grant's reputation; it is long overdue. It also affirms Sarna's unsurpassed standing as a historian of American Jewry." — Sean Wilentz, author of *The Rise of American Democracy: Jefferson to Lincoln*



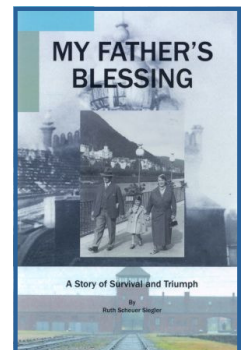
"Sarna expertly navigates the repercussions of Grant's shocking order, which galvanized the American Jewish community into action, reminding many who were refugees from European expulsions how insecure they were even in America. . . . Sarna weighs the short-lived order against important Jewish appointments in Grant's administration, his humanitarian support for oppressed Jews around the world, and lasting friendships with Jews. A well-argued exoneration of a president and a sturdy scholarly study." — Kirkus Reviews

Published by Random House (www.randomhouse.com).

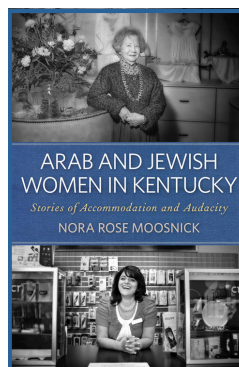
Ruth Scheuer Siegler, *My Father's Blessing*

The Birmingham Holocaust Education Center has sponsored the publication of the memoir of Ruth Scheuer Siegler, a Holocaust survivor now living in Birmingham. In *My Father's Blessing*, Siegler shares her painful past in order to teach future generations. "There is not one day that goes by that I do not remember things from my past," she writes. "I often wonder why it was I who survived. I will never forget, but one has to forgive and look for the good in what life has to offer."

Published by the BHEC (bhamholocausteducation.org).



Nora Rose Moosnick, *Arab and Jewish Women in Kentucky: Stories of Accommodation and Audacity*



Strong images surface when thinking about Arabs, Jews, and their religions, ethnicities, and lands. Kentucky is not normally a state that comes to mind when talking about Arabs and Jews. It's not New York or Michigan, where Jews and Arabs abound.

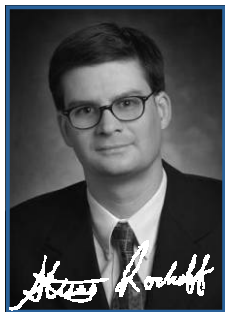
Arab and Jewish Women in Kentucky: Stories of Accommodation and Audacity (University Press of Kentucky, www.kentuckypress.com, May 2012) challenges misconceptions of Arabs and Jews in out-of-the-way places in America by imparting the stories of ten Arab and Jewish women in Kentucky whose families currently or at one time had businesses in the state. In the details of women's lives, perceptible overlaps become apparent, displaying Arab and Jewish women with similar tales that join around common themes of

— continued on page 3



Find us on Facebook! Search for "Southern Jewish Historical Society"

President's Message By Stuart Rockoff



North Carolina has one of the most fascinating Jewish communities in the South. In most other southern states, smaller communities are declining and even becoming extinct. In North Carolina, this trend co-exists with a remarkable growth in small and medium-sized Jewish communities. This is especially the case in the state's western mountains. Asheville is in many ways the epitome of this trend. Over the last few decades, this jewel of a city, nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains, has attracted artists, musicians, retirees, and young people drawn by the area's beauty and rustic cosmopolitanism. Jews have been a part of this migration, as Asheville's Jewish community has doubled in size over the last fifteen years. Today, Asheville has a vibrant community of 2,500 Jews, including two congregations, a Jewish Community Center, Jewish Family Services, and annual Jewish food, music, and film festivals.

For these reasons, I am extremely excited for our upcoming conference in Asheville being held October 19 – 21. Asheville has an unusual Jewish history, and its recent flowering as a Jewish center highlights an important demographic trend reshaping the Jewish South. Thus, in addition to being a lovely place to visit and hold a conference, Asheville and its Jewish community is crucial to understanding the state of the Jewish South today. With Leonard Rogoff, the country's foremost expert on North Carolina Jewish history, putting together the program, it promises to be a stimulating and engaging conference. Please check our website, www.jewishsouth.org, and this issue of the *Rambler* for more information about the conference. I hope you can join us in the fall.

While our annual conference is perhaps the most important activity that the society sponsors, it is not all that we do. From publishing a high quality journal to supporting archives and scholars through our grants program, the Southern Jewish Historical Society has been working to foster the study of Jewish life in the South for the last 35 years. But like every organization, the society has evolved over the years. Recently, I have been working with a few other board members to revise our constitution and by-laws to better reflect our current activities. You will be receiving official notice of these changes before the Asheville conference, where they will be voted on by our membership.

The process of revising our constitution and by-laws has been very interesting and even a little fun, though one question keeps coming up: should we restrict the by-laws to our current work, or should we create room to grow and expand our activities? Put another way, should they be purely descriptive or should they sketch out where we would like to be in the future? When I created this ad hoc committee, I didn't anticipate that it would lead us to consider the future direction of the society. And there is much to consider. I have written in the last several *Rambler* newsletters about bringing the society into the 21st century, using technology to expand our audience and more effectively meet our mission.

As an all-volunteer organization, our progress has been slower than I would like, but we need to keep pushing ahead. Our goal must be to make the SJHS relevant to younger generations and to a region where so many southern Jews have little or no connection to this history. It is a daunting task! But with your help and support, we can ensure that the society remains vital and viable for the next 35 years.

Plans for SJHS 37th Annual Conference

Join Us in Asheville, N.C. • October 19-21, 2012



(Hendersonville), with kosher boarding houses and Jewish camps. This year we invite you all to come and see for yourselves what drew our ancestors to these mountains. Explore the Jewish side of Asheville and the Appalachians. Visit some of the sites in our Jewish Museum without Walls. See the fall foliage at its peak!

In the early 1800s, some German Jews arrived in Asheville, but when the railroad made it to the city in 1880, Eastern Europeans came in large enough numbers to form first Congregation Beth Ha Tephila (1891) and then Bikor Cholim (1899). In a town Asheville's size it was doubtful there was enough support for two

Appalachian Jews? Jews of the mountains? Who knew that Jews would live in remote and isolated villages as well as the bustling metropolis of Asheville? They came to the "Paris of the South," and they came to tiny towns and opened stores with names like The Paris Store, Bon Marché, Palais Royal. There was even a Catskills of the South nearby

congregations, but even Solomon Schechter, head of the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York, could not convince the synagogues to merge. (What's new?) Most of the early Jewish settlers owned retail businesses. Over 435 were documented in downtown Asheville from 1880-1990. Today Asheville has a thriving Jewish community revitalized by the new Jewish settlers who are coming to a city with a downtown which has reinvented itself from a destination of purpose to a downtown of arts and entertainment. Not only Asheville, but also neighboring communities, are growing Jewishly. Active congregations can be found in neighboring Hendersonville, Brevard, Franklin and Boone, North Carolina; Johnson City, Tennessee; and Greenville and Spartanburg, South Carolina.

At the conference we will have speakers relating to Jewish Hendersonville, the dancingest town in the mountains, and its sleep-away camps; Thomas Wolfe; Black Mountain College, and much, much more. You will stay right in downtown Asheville, amid great restaurants, historic architecture and lively entertainment venues. See old friends and make new ones. This is a perfect time to visit Asheville and come to the 37th Annual Southern Jewish Historical Society Conference.

Conference information, as it develops, will be available on the SJHS web site: www.jewishsouth.org.

Rabbi Allen Krause

It is with heavy hearts that we report that Rabbi Allen Krause passed away on March 3. Allen had been battling cancer for a few years. For the past few weeks, he had been receiving hospice care in his home. While his passing is not a surprise, it is a tremendous loss. After retiring from a long career as a rabbi, Allen became an incredibly productive scholar whose work has appeared in the *Southern Jewish History* journal, as well as at many of our conferences. While he was in remission last year, Allen agreed to serve on the SJHS board. Even when his cancer returned, he remained dedicated to the society, attending our conference in Columbia, and heroically presenting a fascinating paper that showed that his skill as a historian had not been diminished by his illness.

The funeral was on March 6 at Temple Beth El in Aliso Viejo, California, the congregation that he served for so many years. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Sherri and his children Stephen, Gavriella, and Roger.

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The SJHS is now on Facebook! Get the latest news and updates about the society's programs, conferences, and grants. Search for "Southern Jewish Historical Society" and click the 'Like' button to add the SJHS to your newsfeed.

◆ Membership Dues

Thanks to everyone who has paid up their SJHS dues for 2012. If you haven't paid your dues through the current year — or if you are not a member of SJHS and would like to join — please use the Membership Form on p.6. Questions regarding membership and dues can be addressed to Membership Chair Ellen Umansky at eumansky@fairfield.edu.

◆ Listserv Changes

Since 2007 the SJHS has run JEWISHSOUTH, a moderated listserv (an e-mail mailing list and electronic bulletin board) devoted to the discussion of all things related to Southern Jewish History. Researchers and scholars have posed questions relating to their work; authors have described their latest book projects; museums have advertised exhibitions; and members of the Society have kept in touch with one another.

At the end of 2011, the organization that hosted our listserv ended its operations, and we were obliged to create a new mailing list. We invite all who were members of our original list and anyone else interested in lively discussion of Southern Jewish History to join. To do so, email Adam Mendelsohn at mendelsohna@cofc.edu.

The SJHS also maintains an e-mail list in order to reach their members. If you have not submitted your e-mail, or if it may be out of date, please contact Barbara Tahler at bt@wydd.com. All SJHS communications go out as "bcc" lists, so your e-mail address will not be visible to others who receive the message.

◆ Remembering Dorothy Hamburger



Dorothy P. Hamburger of Atlanta, devoted member of SJHS, passed away on February 9, 2012, in Atlanta. She was 93. Dorothy, known as "Dot" to many of her friends, was an early member of SJHS, served on the Society's board in various capacities in the late 1980s, including chair of the nominating committee, and became treasurer in 1990. She and her late husband, Alvin, who passed away in 1995, were loyal attendees at Society conferences. Dorothy was the daughter of Kate and Charles Pearl of Greensboro, NC. She moved to Baltimore after graduating from Syracuse University. It was in Baltimore that she met Alvin, whom she married in 1940. Dorothy and Alvin subsequently moved to Atlanta, where she lived for over sixty years. Dorothy and her husband were active on behalf of many civic, philanthropic, and religious organizations, especially URJ Camp Coleman in Cleveland Georgia, which she served for more than fifty years as a founder, officer, board member, and historian; and The Temple Sisterhood, which she headed as president from 1960 to 1962 and, again, from 1974 to 1976. She is survived by her son and daughter-in-law Marc and Deedee Hamburger of Atlanta as well as grandchildren and a great-granddaughter. She was predeceased by a son, Alan. Funeral services were held at the Temple, Atlanta, on February 12. Dorothy was buried in the family burial site in Greensboro, NC.

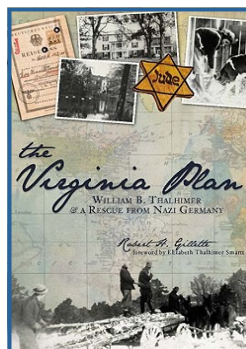
New Books of Interest *continued from page 1...*

public service to their communities, intergenerational relationships, running businesses, and the difficulties of juggling family and work. Their stories are of immigrants or the children of immigrants who supply daily lives and have done so for several generations, the people who provide(d) movie entertainment, clothes, meats, fine furnishings, shoes, and cell phones, among other items.

The book contributes to local and national efforts to create connections between Arabs and Jews in the face of the tensions that bedevil them, even in Kentucky. By way of women's tales, Arabs and Jews can affirm their likenesses, differences, and humanity and, do so in places far from both the Middle East and locales in the United States typically associated with these peoples.

Robert Gillette, *The Virginia Plan: William B. Thalhimer and a Rescue from Nazi Germany*

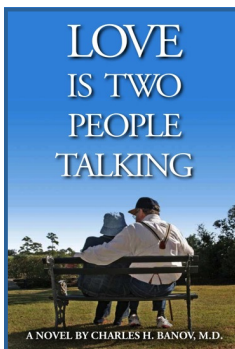
Published in March 2011 by the History Press (historypress.net), *The Virginia Plan* continues to garner attention. Robert (Bob) Gillette, who gave a paper at the 2011 SJHS Conference in Columbia about the untold story of rescue, reported that the book has gone to a second printing and is now an Ebook. He was recently notified that the book has been nominated for the 15th Annual Library of Virginia Literary Excellence Award in the category of non-fiction, and he will be a presenter at the Virginia Festival of the Book that is held at the University of Virginia in late March. In addition, the book has been named as "Lynchburg Reads"



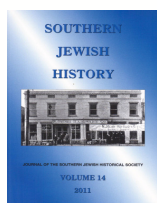
for 2012. He was recently featured in *The Wesleyan University Connection* and has been a speaker at numerous events in Virginia and Connecticut. Since the book's publication, more stories connected to his research have come to light, which, as with any researcher, is always exciting. He is beginning to write a young adult reader's version of the story.

Charles Banov, *Love is Two People Talking*

Love Is Two People Talking, Dr. Charles Banov's first novel, is a heartwarming story about the importance of communication between family and friends. It examines a myriad of emotional issues including old age, alienation, physical illness, suicide and one's relationship with the Creator. The story is loosely based on Dr. Banov's personal experiences living with Parkinson's Disease and his relationship with his daughter who has Rett Syndrome, a type of developmental disease. Charles H. Banov, M.D., is a native of Charleston, S.C. He was a Clinical Professor of Medicine at the Medical University of South Carolina and practiced allergy and immunology in Charleston from 1961 until his retirement in 2007. Dr. Banov has been involved in many civic and medical organizations and his memoir, "Office Upstairs, A Doctor's Journey" was published in 2007.



Published by Evening Post Books
(www.eveningpostbooks.com).



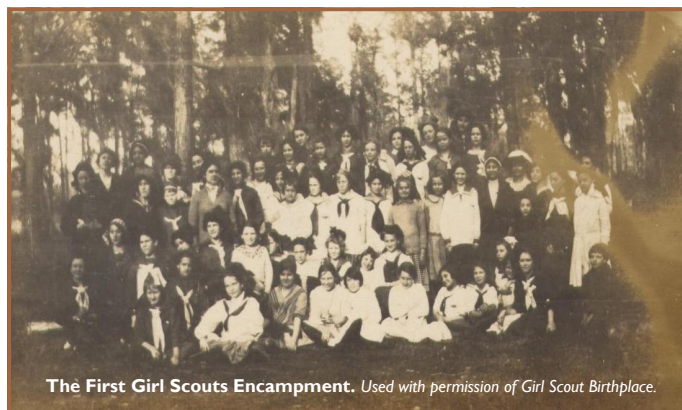
Southern Jewish History Seeking Submissions

Southern Jewish History, an annual peer-reviewed journal sponsored by the Southern Jewish Historical Society, is currently soliciting articles for volume 15 that will appear in October 2012. For information, questions, or to submit an article, contact Dr. Mark K. Bauman, Editor, markkbauman@aol.com.

Savannah Exhibit

“The Girl Scouts — In the Beginning We Were There”

By Jane Guthman Kahn



Savannah's Congregation Mickve Israel, third oldest synagogue in the United States, has created a year-long exhibit in conjunction with the centennial anniversary of the founding of the Girl Scouts in March 1912, in Savannah.

“The Girls Scouts—In the Beginning We Were There” focuses on a 100-year connection between the two historic institutions. The exhibit highlights the diversity that has been a part of the Girl Scouts since inception. It will remain through the end of the year.

“I've got something for the girls of Savannah, and all the world, and we're going to start it tonight,” Juliette Gordon Low telephoned a friend on March 9, 1912.

When Juliette Low made that definitive statement, could she possibly have envisioned that 100 years later fifty million girls would fulfill that promise? **Fifty Million!** Could she have known the worldwide impact her movement would have? Could she comprehend that her vision would be rooted in a diversity that organizations today still seek to emulate? (Current membership is 3.5 million, girls from kindergarten through seniors in high school. They represent every background, racial/ethnic group and socio-economic group.)

In her hometown, as she would do throughout the country, Juliette Low involved community leaders. Three of the Girl Scouts earliest patrol (troop) leaders were members of Mickve Israel: Leonora Amram, Henrietta Falk and Mildred Guckenheimer (Abrahams Kuhr). (Leonora would serve on the first Girl Scout Council (governing board). Later, Mildred for years would hold the position of secretary of the Council.) That involvement of Jewish women would continue in history.

Scarcely a year after the founding, Mildred would lead Savannah's first Girl Scout encampment trip to Wassaw Island, still today a barrier island off the coast of Savannah. Photographs from that 10-day campout and Mildred's vivid memoirs punctuate the exhibit. “Finding a suitable campsite and financing the enterprise was easy in comparison to getting the anxious parents of the Patrol Leaders and of the girls to consent to such an unheard-of-expedition,” Mildred wrote.

“The first night we pitched our tents on the river-side of the island,” Mildred wrote. “The mosquitoes descended upon us like the locusts which plagued the Egyptians of old. So over the high sand dunes marched sixty tired little girls and their tired and anxious leaders...to sleep on the beach.”

In Savannah, the first Girl Scout patrols included girls from an elite private school, as well as Jewish girls, those of the general population and those from local orphanages and homes. (Jewish girls were always included, which is indicative of how much the Jews were a part of the Savannah scene since the founding of the colony and General James Edward Oglethorpe's welcoming Jews in all areas of colonial life.)

Back in 1912, Girl Scouting opened a whole new world. After 6th or 7th grade, girls had nothing to do, nowhere to go. Girl Scouts offered them opportunities

to go camping, learn to cook, travel, participate in community service and earn proficiency badges at award ceremonies that singled them out. Girl Scouting was that new thing! Through scouting they could do anything they wanted to do! (Historic note: that year suffragettes and their supporters were parading in New York City.)

The exhibit includes uniforms, badges, patches and pins through the years, as well as camping gear and Girl Scout handbooks. During World War II, Southeastern Shipyards in Savannah built Liberty Ships to “bear the materials of war to conquer the forces of evil.” On display is a hatch cover from the SS Juliette Low, launched in Savannah May 12, 1944, the 51st liberty ship built here, as well as memorabilia of scouts from the war years.

Savannah's first commercially produced Girl Scout cookies were baked in 1936 by a local institution, Gottlieb's Bakery. On display is the bill of sale from those cookies, as well as the recipe. (Nationally, this year in honor of the centennial, a new Girl Scout cookie has been introduced: “Savannah Smiles.”)

The 279-year-old Congregation Mickve Israel is a natural to showcase the Girl Scouts. The temple is located just a few blocks from the Girl Scout First Headquarters (in the carriage house of the Andrew Low home, her husband's family) and from the Girl Scout Birthplace (a historic showcase house museum, built in 1820).

Mickve Israel has created a museum on its premises. It attracts Girl Scout troops and other visitors from throughout the world. The permanent collection also includes a Torah brought from England in 1733 by the original Jewish settlers, a circumcision kit brought with them, the Shefall diaries detailing life on board and in the early Georgia colony, the charter of the Congregation and minutes since its organization, an early organ, a list of Congregation members who served in the Civil War—in the Confederacy and in the Union—and copies of Presidential letters throughout history.

Savannah is entering its high tourist season. An additional influx of Girl Scout troops is expected during the centennial year. Mickve Israel hosted a weekend celebration in March with a special Shabbat dinner (including Girl Scout dignitaries), religious services and tours during the centennial weekend. Created for the celebration is a Shalom Y'all Mickve Israel Girl Scout patch with the congregation crest. A city-wide tea Girl Scout Sunday tea, at the temple, included home-made original oatmeal cookies and Savannah Smiles.

Mickve Israel is located in Savannah's historic district, on Monterey Square, (Bull Street between Gordon and Wayne Streets). Regular docent-guided tours of the sanctuary and the museum are offered 10 a.m.- 1 p.m. and 2 -4 p.m. Monday-Friday. The last tour starts approximately 30 minutes before the end of each session. For information, see www.mickveisrael.org.



News and Notes

Tulane's New Jewish Studies Department



From Dr. Michael R. Cohen of Tulane University: Twenty- nine years after the establishment of the Jewish Studies program by Joe Cohen in the early 1980s, the faculty of the School of Liberal Arts voted to transform the Jewish Studies Program into a stand-alone department. The new Department of Jewish Studies will officially open its doors on July 1, 2012.

This initiative was undertaken by the faculty of the Jewish Studies program, which had seen significant changes occur over the past few years. More than 400 students now enroll each semester in one of our Jewish Studies classes; recently, the number of majors and minors has more than doubled. An increasingly diverse student body is becoming involved in extra-curricular activities that explore Jewish heritage, history, and culture.

With the establishment of the new department, Jewish Studies will be able to expand its curricular offerings. Along with its current classes, in the next few years, it hopes to attract new faculty whose scholarly work will focus on the Holocaust, Israel, Hebrew, and Yiddish. While the emphasis of the department will be the modern Jewish experience, it will offer a range of courses on Jewish life in the United States and across the world, both in the present and in past times. In addition, it will actively foster service learning opportunities for Tulane students and provide the New Orleans community with a vibrant intellectual life, including lectures and seminars with world-class scholars. Over the next few years, our goal is to become a world-class center of Jewish learning and student-faculty interaction.

Civil War Exhibit in Richmond

In conjunction with the Civil War sesquicentennial, an exhibition entitled "That You'll Remember Me" has opened at the Beth Ahabah Museum and Archives. This exhibit recounts stories of the Richmond Jewish experience during the Civil War through personal effects, letters and documents, paintings, sculpture, song and audio narratives. Despite their varied backgrounds, Richmond Jews valued their American identity and eagerly devoted themselves to the war cause. Allegiances to North or South unified some families while tearing others apart. Opinions on the war, slavery and other contentious issues ranged widely between families, but their patriotism was unwavering. Jews, through the military, government or civilian assistance, fulfilled many necessary roles and services for their country during the Civil War period. The exhibit will run through April 2015. For further information, visit www.bethahabah.org/bama



Isaac Levy of Richmond, killed at Petersburg, Virginia, in August 1864, at age 21.

Looking for Play Scripts

From Dr. Sloane Drayson-Knigge: I am interested in reading scripts written from mid-20th century to works-in-progress which illuminate the spectrum of experiences/events of Jewish women in America. I am particularly interested in one acts and in the experience of Southern Jewish women. The scripts will be used for in-class study by Graduate and Theological students. There is a possibility that one or two one-acts may be given a reading open to the university community. Regrettably, I have no royalty budget. Please contact me at sdrayson@drew.edu.

Call for Essays: Jewish Summer Camps

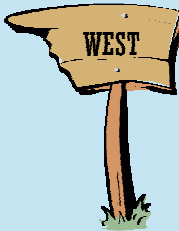
The journal *Western States Jewish History* is planning a special issue focusing on Jewish summer camps west of the Mississippi, and they are currently seeking contributors. "Jewish Summer Camp Memories" will include personal essays on any camps sponsored by Jewish organizations, Jewish Community Center day camps, and day camps sponsored by synagogues and temples. Private

resident camps of a basically Jewish nature are also included. They are looking for essays from former campers, counselors, staff, directors, and founders who attended or worked at camps prior to 1979.

Subjects might include: activities like arts and crafts, swimming, storytelling, overnight campouts, hiking, horseback riding, woodcraft, singing, dancing, or dramatics; Oneg Shabbat and other Jewish observances; friendships; special camp activities like Capture the Flag, Gold Rush Days, other special days, color wars, or boy and girl mixers; photographs of camp life; or the motivation of parents in sending their children to camp for a session or all summer, or away for a day.

The purpose of this special issue is to demonstrate opportunities for Jewish youth living in the West to enjoy recreational opportunities that enriched their childhoods. For information, or to offer a submission, contact Abe Hoffman, Special Projects Editor, at abecampmemories@gmail.com.

Western States Jewish Historical Society?



David Epstein, the publisher and managing editor of the journal *Western States Jewish History*, is trying to raise interest in the creation of a Western States Jewish Historical Society. "The East," he says, "barely knows we exist," and such an organization could help scholars and others interested in the subject meet one other, learn more about archival collections available to them, lend and exchange exhibits, and share information on guest speakers. For purposes of the organization, the West includes the states west of the Mississippi River.

The *WSJH* journal, already organized as a 501(c)(3) non-profit, could hold the new society "under its wing" until it gets up and running on its own. They have created a web site, www.WSJHistory.org, with more coming. Anyone interested in participating should visit the site and click on "Contact Us," or reach David directly at amrabbi@pacbell.net.

"Chosen Food" at The Jewish Museum of Maryland

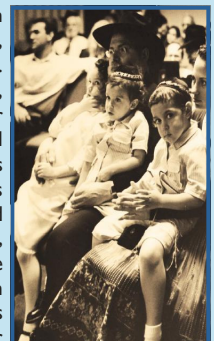


For Jews, as for other Americans, food is a never just about consumption: food is a means to observe and to celebrate, to maintain tradition and to mark transition, to preserve memory and to produce new meaning. American Jewish foodways, in short, open up a host of conversations about the history and experience of being Jewish and American in the 21st century.

The Jewish Museum of Maryland explores Jewish-American foodways in a new exhibition, *Chosen Food: Cuisine, Culture, and American Jewish Identity*, which opened at the Baltimore museum on October 23, 2011 and runs through December 30, 2012. Through recorded conversations, historical and contemporary documents, and the rich material culture of foodways, the exhibition demonstrates how American Jews use food as an essential mode of cultural communication. In addition to the exhibition, the Museum produced a related catalog and website (www.chosenfood.org).

Exhibit on Arkansas Jewry

The Butler Center for Arkansas Studies in Little Rock will present "Making a Place: The Jewish Experience in Arkansas," on view from March 9 through June 23, 2012, at Concordia Hall, Butler Center Galleries. Focusing on immigration, isolation and assimilation, business, and culture, the exhibit is part of the Butler Center's larger effort to create interactive historical exhibitions that visually tell the story of Arkansas's history and culture, past and present. It showcases houses of worship, the development of Jewish-owned businesses, cultural difficulties, community activities, and the idea of giving back to the community. The exhibit includes several photographic works on loan from the Institute for Southern Jewish Life, as well as material culture from Jewish organizations all over Arkansas. For information, visit www.butlercenter.org.





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Your membership will help support the SJHS in its efforts to study, preserve, and present the Jewish experience in the American South. The SJHS awards prizes and research grants, publishes scholarship, supports exhibitions, and holds an annual conference. Members receive *The Rambler*, *Southern Jewish History* journal, and special conference rates.



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