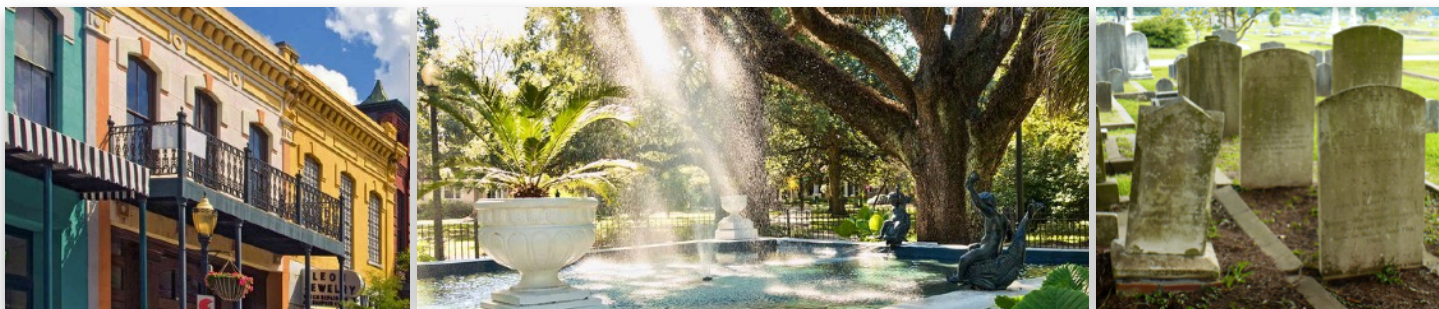




Southerners, Citizens, Alligators: We Meet in Mobile



Dauphin Street detail, Washington Square near downtown, Jews Rest section at Magnolia Cemetery.

If you've read the detailed descriptions of the papers on tap at the SJHS 2018 conference (available on the SJHS website), you know that a rich weekend awaits us when we gather in Mobile from October 26–28. Scholars from across the nation will offer diverse interpretations of the conference theme, “Southern Jews, American Citizens,” highlighting the many ways that Jews living in southern communities have understood and lived out their identities as southerners, Jews, and Americans. Not only will you be able to discuss a variety of issues with our presenters, you will have time to renew old friendships and make new ones.

The Friday bus tour of key sites in Mobile Jewish history will feature historic Magnolia Cemetery, home of the city's oldest Jewish resting ground. We will also stop at Springhill Avenue Temple, where architect Harvey Gandler will talk about the Temple's design and its beautiful stained glass. A special display curated by Temple archivist Susan Thomas will be on view.

Unique presentations will enhance the conference. Journalist and novelist Roy Hoffman will relate his experience as a native Jewish Mobilian. We will hear from the Mobile Christian-Jewish Dialogue Board, one of the oldest interfaith organizations in the country. Keynoter Jeffrey Rosen, George Washington University

Law School professor and president of the National Constitution Center, will speak on “Louis Brandeis as a Southern Jew,” sponsored by the Beeber Family Speaker Series of the Helen M. Stern Memorial Fund. (Arrangements for the appearance of Jeffrey Rosen made through Greater Talent Network LLC, New York, NY.) The Helen M. Stern Cultural Encounter will feature Judah Cohen of Indiana University and the University of South Alabama's Laura Moore (piano) and Thomas Rowell (tenor), presenting 19th-century music composed by Mobile's Joseph Bloch and the Schlesinger brothers.

Despite a full schedule, there will be time for some exploring on your own, especially Saturday night. Visitors can partake of the Dauphin Street entertainment district or have dinner on the Causeway, which offers sunset views overlooking Mobile Bay. Both the Mardi Gras museum and Mobile history museum are only a few blocks from the conference hotel. For those with more time to spend, the Gulf Coast region offers numerous attractions—such as the Five Rivers Delta Resource Center across the bay, which has boat tours of the most bio-diverse area of North America (beware of alligators).

There's something for everyone in Mobile. We'll see you there!

SJHS Conference Hotel Information – Book Now!

The SJHS conference hotel is the Admiral Hotel Mobile, Curio Collection by Hilton. Reservations must be received by September 28, 2018. The special conference rate of \$119 per night is available for Thursday through Saturday night, October 25–27, and includes breakfast. It does not include taxes/extra fees.

To book at the conference rate, go to the SJHS website, jewishsouth.org/upcoming-conference, or call 1.800.445.8667. The group code is MOBCUQ.



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President's Message By Dan J. Puckett



What a whirlwind these past two years have been! It's hard to believe that when we meet in Mobile, it will have been two years since I took the reins of the SJHS from Ellen Umansky in Natchez. What big shoes those were to fill. We're fortunate to have creative and dedicated officers and board members, all of whom have made leading the Society a pleasure. I have no doubt that with the leadership of incoming president Phyllis Leffler, the future of the SJHS is very bright indeed.

With our meeting in Mobile drawing near, there are a great number of things to be excited about. Program chair Scott Langston and Local Arrangements chair David Meola have done a fantastic job of putting together intriguing panels and interesting venues. One such venue is Spring Hill College, where we'll convene on Friday afternoon. The Roman Catholic college has one of the most beautiful campuses in Alabama. It is also home to Mobile's Christian-Jewish Dialogue. Mobile has enjoyed a strong relationship between the Jewish and Christian communities, with the Dialogue at the forefront. At lunch, we'll hear one my favorite authors, Mobile's own Roy Hoffman.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the generous contribution the Helen M. Stern Foundation has made to the Society, particularly its impact on our annual meeting. My heartfelt thanks go to Bruce and Linda Beeber and the Stern Foundation. We now can host renowned speakers and fascinating cultural performances that previously we could not afford. The Stern Foundation will fund Jeffrey Rosen's keynote speech on Louis Brandeis and Judah Cohen's lecture/performance on Mobile's important 19th-century Jewish musical connections. This funding has also made conference planning easier and has enabled us to consider holding our annual meeting in cities that previously were out of reach. For the Society, the Stern Foundation has been a real game-changer.

As I prepare to step down as president in October, I would like to thank three very important people: Ellen Umansky, who provided much-needed advice and guidance as I assumed the post; Phyllis Leffler, who was a joy to work with on the Society's many projects; and Les Bergen, who kept us all grounded with his sage advice. I am deeply appreciative of your help.

On to Mobile!



Former Mobile mayor Sam Jones and Perilla Wilson at a Mobile Christian-Jewish Dialogue event.

CSJC Receives NEH Grant to Promote Southern Jewish History

The Center for Southern Jewish Culture at the College of Charleston (CSJC) has been awarded a major competitive grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to host a Summer Institute for College and University Professors, entitled "Privilege and Prejudice: Jewish History in the American South."

For two weeks, 25 educators will gather in Charleston to learn how the story of southern Jews can provide a richer, more textured and inclusive account of the American South, past and present. The program aims to teach



Jewish Welfare Board, Camp Hancock, Augusta, Ga., c. 1918. Special Collections, College of Charleston Libraries.

faculty and instructors in higher education "how to incorporate southern Jewish history into mainstream academia," says CSJC director Shari Rabin.

"We are thrilled about the opportunity to share southern Jewish history with a wider audience," adds Rabin, who will conduct the program along with CSJC associate director Dale

Rosengarten and Michael R. Cohen, chair of Jewish studies at Tulane University. "We hope that SJHS members will help spread the word to prospective participants." The Institute will take place from May 26–June 7, 2019.

Southern Jews, American Citizens

Southern Jewish Historical Society 43rd Annual Conference

Mobile, Alabama, October 26–28, 2018

Scott Langston, Program Chair

Friday, October 26

Sessions to be held at Spring Hill College

8–9 am: Registration at Admiral Hotel

9–10:30 am: Bus Tour of Mobile's Jewish Sites

11 am–12:30 pm: "Answering the Needs of the Community: Jewish Benevolence in the South"

Chair: Diane Vecchio

- ▶ Cynthia Francis Gensheimer, "Dear Cousin Nettie: A Jewish Family's 19th-Century Work in Commerce and Benevolence"
- ▶ Marlene Trestman, "The Ties that Bind: The Vital Relationship between New Orleans's Jewish Orphans' Home and Alabama's Jewish Communities"
- ▶ Rosalind F. Hinton, "L'dor, V'dor, From Generation to Generation: Jewish Women and Their Impact on New Orleans"

12:30–1:45 pm: Luncheon

Speaker: Roy Hoffman, journalist and novelist

2–3:30 pm: "Southern Jews as Advocates and Activists"

Chair: Ellen Umansky

- ▶ Leah C. Burnham, "All Men are Responsible for One Another": Atlanta Jews and the Atlanta Federal Penitentiary during the 20th Century"
- ▶ Josh Parshall, "Radical, Jewish, and American: Southern Arbeter Ring Members as Ambivalent Citizens"
- ▶ Eric Morgenson, "Memories of Richmond: Murray Friedman in the South, 1954-1959"

3:45–4:15 pm: Presentation by Mobile Christian-Jewish Dialogue Board

5:45 pm: Shabbat Services at Springhill Avenue Temple

6:30 pm: Dinner at Springhill Avenue Temple Keynote Address, Beeber Family Speaker Series of the Helen M. Stern Memorial Fund

Jeffrey Rosen, National Constitution Center, "Louis Brandeis as a Southern Jew"

Saturday, October 27

Sessions to be held at University of South Alabama

7:30–8:30 am: Informal shabbat service at hotel

9:30–10:30 am: "Balancing Local and Jewish Identities: Two Jewish Communities"

Chair: Michele Strong

- ▶ Philip Spivey, "Concordia: Gender, Race, and Class Conflicts Outside and Within Arkansas's First Jewish Social Club"
- ▶ Kyle Stanton, "Houston, Not Jerusalem: Congregation Beth Israel's Challenge to Reform Judaism and American Jewish Identity"

10:45 am–12:15 pm: "A Chosen Calling: Three Mensches of Mobile"

Chair: Demetrius Semien

- ▶ Susan W. Thomas, "Captain Leon Schwarz: Citizen Soldier, Civic Leader, and Consummate Patriot in Turn-of-the-Century Mobile"
- ▶ Dana Evan Kaplan, "Rabbi Alfred G. Moses of Mobile, Alabama and the Development of Jewish Science in the Early 20th Century"
- ▶ Steve Krause, "Mobile, Alabama—in the Land of the Almost Possible: Notes from a 1966 Interview with Rabbi P. Irving Bloom"

12:30–1:30 pm: Luncheon

1:45–3:30 pm: "Jewish Soldiers and the American South, At Home and Abroad"

Chair: Hollace Weiner

- ▶ Shari Rabin and Adam Domby, "Lies and Loyalties: The True Story of a Rabbi Conman and the American Civil War"
- ▶ Jessica Cooperman, "Jacob Rader Marcus, WWI Soldier"
- ▶ David Weinfeld, "Saul Wiener's Australian Adventure"

4–5 pm: Helen M. Stern Cultural Encounter

Judah Cohen, musicologist, "Joseph Bloch, Sigmund Schlesinger, and the Soundscape of Southern Jewish Life," accompanied by Laura Moore (piano) and Thomas Rowell (tenor)

5:30–6:30 pm: Meet the Authors and Reception

- ▶ Eric L. Goldstein and Deborah R. Weiner, *On Middle Ground: A History of the Jews of Baltimore* (Johns Hopkins University Press)
- ▶ James L. Moses, *Just and Righteous Causes: Rabbi Ira Sanders and the Fight for Racial and Social Justice in Arkansas, 1926-1963* (University of Arkansas Press)
- ▶ Shari Rabin, *Jews on the Frontier: Religion and Mobility in Nineteenth-Century America* (NYU Press)
- ▶ Paula Webb, *Mobile Under Siege: Surviving the Union Blockade* (The History Press)

Sunday, October 28

Sessions to be held at conference hotel

8:45–9:45 am: SJHS Membership Meeting

10–11:30 am: "Patriotism and Human Rights in World War II"

Chair: David Messenger

- ▶ Edward S. Shapiro, "Rabbis Alexander Goode and Sidney Lefkowitz and World War II"
- ▶ Joshua J. Furman, "Hidden Stars: The Story of the Beth Jacob Banner"
- ▶ Marilyn Grace Miller, "Jewish Citizens Internees in the American South, 1942-1946"

Afternoon: Post-Conference Digital History Workshop

How Mobile's Rabbi Served World War I Sailors

By Milt Grishman

In keeping with the theme of the SJHS 2018 conference, "Southern Jews, American Citizens," it is a good time to recognize the century-old work of Rabbi Alfred G. Moses in serving young sailors stationed on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

As rabbi of Mobile's Congregation Shaarai Shomayim (today commonly known as the Springhill Avenue Temple) in 1918, Moses responded to the call of the Jewish Welfare Board (JWB), a national organization founded the previous year to support young Jews heading into the military during World War I. He and his wife traveled along the coast to Biloxi, where he spent part of the summer ministering to Jewish recruits stationed at the nearby U.S. Naval Training Camp in Gulfport. In July, Rabbi Moses conducted one of the first documented Sabbath evening services held in Biloxi at the Elks Club on Lameuse Street, just up from the Riviera Hotel, where the couple was staying. The "accomplished and learned preacher" addressed an "excellent audience," stated the Gulf Coast's *Daily Herald*.

In keeping with the JWB's mission to "safeguard the rights, fulfill the spiritual needs, combat the loneliness and isolation, and

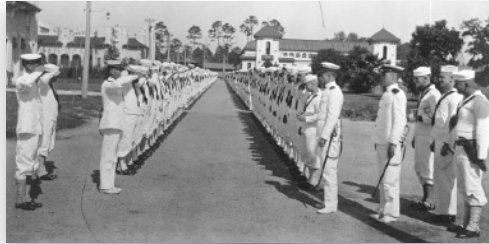
honor the service" of Jewish service members, Rabbi Moses no doubt offered pastoral counseling and moral support to the sailors, most stationed far from home. In early September, the *Daily Herald* reported, Moses arranged to bring 25 sailors to Mobile for the High Holy Days. Festivities included a New Year's luncheon at the Cawthon Hotel, where patriotic songs were "rendered by the orchestra and the boys joined in and sang the words to the music."

Rabbi Moses returned to Gulfport in late September. The *Daily Herald* noted that he "held services and delivered a sermon at the camp to those of the Jewish faith." They were "so appreciative of his work that

A. H. Halpin, representing a large number of donors in a feeling address, presented the rabbi a gold double-triangle star, known as the 'Shield of David'. Dr. Moses was very much surprised but very eloquently acknowledged the handsome gift."

The mission of the Jewish Welfare Board is carried on today by the JWB Jewish Chaplain's Council. For more information, see jcca.org/what-we-do/jwb.

Milt Grishman, a Gulf Coast native, is a past president of Congregation Beth Israel in Gulfport, Mississippi.



Left: Rabbi Moses, c. 1908. *Springhill Avenue Temple*.
Right: U.S. Naval Training Camp, Gulfport. *Naval History and Heritage Command*.

Rothschild Lecture Addresses Human Rights, Honors Morris Abram

Emory University's annual Rothschild Lecture will feature guest scholar James Loeffler of the University of Virginia, who will speak on his recent book, *Rooted Cosmopolitans: Jews and Human Rights in the Twentieth Century*. The lecture, sponsored by the Tam Institute for Jewish Studies and AJC Atlanta, will take place on November 15 at 7:30 pm, and will be followed by a reception and book signing. The program will also commemorate the centennial of Georgia-born attorney, civil rights leader, and human rights activist Morris B. Abram, whose papers are housed at Emory's Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library.

Loeffler will explore several Jewish founders of international human rights, following them from the shtetls of eastern Europe to the United Nations, a journey that includes the Nuremberg and Eichmann trials, the founding of Amnesty International, and the UN resolution of 1975 labeling Zionism as racism. As in his critically acclaimed book, he will challenge long-held assumptions about the history of human rights and offer a startlingly new perspective on the roots of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.



Attorney and activist Morris B. Abram (right), pictured here with Martin Luther King Sr. ("Daddy King," at left) and Atlanta mayor Ivan Allen Jr. (center) in 1968. *Morris B. Abram Papers, Rose Library, Emory University.*

The lecture will help contextualize the career of Georgia's own Morris B. Abram, whose work as a civil and human rights activist was launched with his 14-year battle against a state law that gave disproportionate weight in primary elections to white rural districts, to the detriment of African American urban voters. Abram later became active in the movement for international human rights, serving as the U.S. representative to the U.N. Commission on Human Rights and holding major leadership positions in the Jewish world.

The Rabbi Jacob M. Rothschild Lecture, now in its 10th year, memorializes the late rabbi, civil rights activist, and spiritual

leader of The Temple, Atlanta's oldest Jewish congregation. Each year the Rothschild Lecture features a distinguished speaker on a topic related to social justice and Judaism.

As part of the Abram centennial commemoration, the Rose Library will present a "show and tell" of items from the Morris B. Abram Papers on the day after the Rothschild Lecture, Friday, November 16, at 11:30 am in the Woodruff Library. For more information, visit the Tam Institute website at js.emory.edu.

History of the Mobile Christian-Jewish Dialogue

By Nadine G. Mendelsohn-Ziskind

The Mobile Christian-Jewish Dialogue began in 1974 when the Springhill Avenue Temple invited the Catholic bishop of Mobile, John May, to participate in a panel discussion together with a Reform rabbi and a Protestant minister. Bishop May wanted to reciprocate the invitation and enlisted the help of Paul and Mary Filben, lay members of the Holy Family parish. The Filbens contacted both the temple and Ahavas Chesed, Mobile's Conservative synagogue, looking for congregants interested in dialogue.

The first meetings were held in people's homes. It was a matter of just getting to know each other, to feel comfortable. The Dialogue's focus evolved into learning and understanding each other's traditions.

Fully committed to the Dialogue, the Filbens started attending events sponsored by the National Workshop on Christian-Jewish Relations, which provided them with ideas to bring back to Mobile. The contacts they made also enabled them to bring in important and well-known leaders with programs ranging from history to theology.

In 1999, the Filbens were instrumental in starting the Alabama Holocaust

Commission to focus on genocide/Holocaust education, leaving the Dialogue free to focus on other matters. Because of his history of outreach to Christians and Jews, Paul Filben was chosen as the Commission's first chair.

The Filbens ran the Dialogue for many years. In 2005, their health declining, they reached out to Spring Hill College. Though they remained involved, theology professor George Gilmore became the Dialogue's de facto director, with input from others. When Mary died in 2010 and as Paul was losing his sight, a board of directors formed to chart the future of the Dialogue, consisting of lay members of Mobile's Christian and

Jewish communities under the sponsorship of Spring Hill College. Much of the participation of board members came about because of their experience attending Holocaust education seminars, especially at Yad Vashem in Israel, partially funded by the Dialogue.

In 2014, Larry Voit was elected board chair, a position which he still holds. With Voit's election, management of the Dialogue passed from Catholic hands to Jewish hands for the first time.

Today the Dialogue contributes to many community activities. It cosponsors the Mobile Jewish Film Festival, which allows the interfaith community to view films and documentaries on a variety of Jewish subjects. It sponsors programs that enable Holocaust survivors and educators to interact with hundreds of middle and high school students along the Gulf Coast. The Dialogue also cosponsors the annual Yom HaShoah Holocaust commemoration ceremony.

Current Dialogue participants include Jews, Catholics, Lutherans, Episcopalians, Baptists, and other Christians. A lack of participation by African-American churches is a challenge the Dialogue

continues to face, along with involving younger generations.

Nevertheless, a long history of friendship between Christians and Jews allows the Dialogue, under lay leadership, to work especially well in Mobile. Given the current state of the country, it is important to highlight the success of the Mobile Christian-Jewish Dialogue in promoting understanding among different religions and combatting stereotypes through education and mutual respect of others.

Nadine G. Mendelsohn-Ziskind received her Master of Arts/History degree from the University of South Alabama in 2017.



A Mobile Christian-Jewish Dialogue event, 2007. Top left: Rev. Greg Lacey, Spring Hill College president; Dialogue co-founders Paul and Mary Filben; Charles Boyd. Top right: University of South Alabama president Gordon Moulton, Springhill Avenue Temple rabbi David Kundstat, Mobile mayor Sam Jones. Bottom left: Rev. Philip Duncan and Dialogue member Jerry Waring. Bottom right: Rev. Greg Lacey with Monsignor Michael Farmer. *Mobile Christian-Jewish Dialogue.*

Extend Your Stay in Mobile for Music or Digital History!

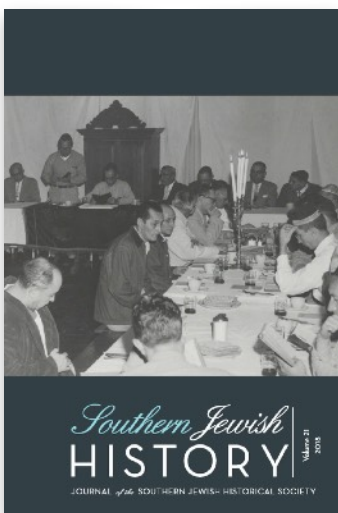
Mobile Chamber Music invites SJHS conference goers to hear the Lysander Piano Trio on Sunday, October 28, at 3 pm, at the Laidlaw Performing Arts Center, University of South Alabama. The program includes works by Debussy, Gilad Cohen, and Brahms. The Trio has performed at Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, and Kennedy Center. Email music@mobilechambermusic.org to receive a 10 percent discount on the \$20 admission. Visit mobilechambermusic.org for more info.

A reminder that you are invited to participate in a free **digital history workshop** Sunday afternoon at the University of South Alabama. This an opportunity to explore digital tools to teach history in the classroom or present history online to public audiences. Attendees will work together to produce an online map that visualizes Mobile Jewish history over the decades. You can register for the workshop when registering for the SJHS conference online. For info, contact Josh Parshall, Institute of Southern Jewish Life, jparshall@isjl.org.

New Volume of *Southern Jewish History* Is Issued

The editors of *Southern Jewish History*, the annual peer-reviewed journal of the Southern Jewish Historical Society, proudly announce publication of Volume 21.

The issue contains a groundbreaking article by Mark K. Bauman and Leah Burnham on Jewish activists who offered support programs to Jewish inmates in the Atlanta Federal Penitentiary. Phyllis K. Leffler contributes an article on the effect of the 2017 Unite the Right rally in Charlottesville on the local Jewish community. She traces the city's legacy of white nationalism and the history of its Jewish population. A primary sources article by Bryan Edward Stone provides new insight on the Galveston Movement of 1907–1914 by analyzing data gathered in 1914 by the



Jewish Immigrants Information Bureau of Galveston.

The volume also includes a variety of book, exhibit, and website reviews.

SJHS members receive the journal as a benefit of membership and may purchase additional copies for \$15 each. Nonmember or online purchases are \$20 and institutional purchases are \$40. Mailing outside the U.S. adds \$20 to the price.

The contents of the first 11 volumes (1998–2008) are free to download at jewishsouth.org. More recent issues can be purchased on the website for \$15 for individuals and \$40 for institutions. For more information, please email journal@jewishsouth.org.

SJHS Grants Support Research, Archives, Public Scholarship

The SJHS Grants Committee is happy to report that in 2018 the Society was able to support a host of worthy projects focusing on different aspects of the southern Jewish experience.

The following individuals received grants to defray research and travel expenses for scholarly projects:

- ▶ University of Pennsylvania graduate student Josef Nothmann, in support of his dissertation project, “‘Cotton Jews’ and Speculative Spinners,” which examines the role of southern Jews in transatlantic cotton commerce during the interwar period.
- ▶ Dr. Melissa Klapper, history professor at Rowan University, in support of her book *At Home in the World: American Jewish Women Abroad, 1865-1939*, which will incorporate material from archives in Raleigh and Charleston.
- ▶ Dr. Sally Wolff King, Emory University literary scholar and historian, in support of her book project on the Wolff Brothers Department Stores, which provides a window into the world of a southern Jewish business family in the early 20th century.

The committee awarded two Scott and Donna Langston Archival Grants:

- ▶ The Houston Jewish History Archive (HJHA) at Rice University, to process and store the records of Congregation Beth Yeshurun, the largest Conservative synagogue in the United States. This collection, previously stored in the congregation's Heritage Room and partially damaged during Hurricane Harvey, will now be arranged and housed at a major university, where it will be protected and made

accessible to scholars and the public. The work will be supervised by HJHA's director, Dr. Joshua Furman.

- ▶ The University of Houston's Center for Public History, to transcribe and preserve oral histories gathered as part of the project “Documenting Disaster in Jewish Meyerland,” which explores the impact of Hurricane Harvey on Houston's Jewish community. This work is being led by Dr. Monica Perales and Dr. Todd Romero.

The committee thanks Scott and Donna Langston and other generous donors for their continued support of the archival grants.

Finally, with the generous support of the Helen M. Stern Foundation, Inc., the committee offered grants to two programs that will bring southern Jewish history to a broad public audience:

- ▶ The Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington, to revise and redesign the brochure for its Downtown Jewish Washington Walking Tour.
- ▶ Elizabeth Johnson, a Middle Tennessee State University public history graduate student, to support her work in developing a Tennessee Jewish Heritage Trail.

Many thanks to the Helen M. Stern Foundation, Inc., and to SJHS past president Bruce Beeber, MD, for helping to make these funds available.

This year's SJHS Grants committee included: Marni Davis, Eric L. Goldstein (chair), Phyllis Leffler, Peggy Pearlstein, and SJHS past president Hollace Weiner.

NEWS AND NOTES

Dallas Jewish Historical Society Exhibit



Items highlighting local B'nai Mitzvah history and Israel at 70 recently filled two display cases opposite the Dallas Jewish Historical Society's office. *Dallas Jewish Historical Society.*

Bris Research Project Underway in Texas

Genealogist Lynna Kay Shuffield is preparing biographical sketches of men whose names are recorded in a 19th-century mohel's bris book located in the archives of Houston's Congregation Beth Israel. When completed, *Rabbi Zacharias Emmich's Bris Book: Rites of Circumcision in Germany, Indiana, Louisiana & Texas, 1851-1874* will include a complete translation of the book along with the sketches.



Rabbi Emmich was born in Baden, Germany, in 1817, came to the U.S. in 1852, and lived in the Midwest before relocating to Texas in 1860. He served as Beth Israel's rabbi from 1860 to 1862. He then became a "dealer in glassware, crockery, cutlery and groceries," and lived in Houston until his death in 1901.

Emmich's career as a mohel in the U.S. spanned several states. Of the 203 circumcisions recorded in the book, 14 took place in seven Louisiana parishes and 135 took place in 27 Texas counties between 1860 and 1874. Texas did not issue birth certificates at that time, making the bris book's entries particularly valuable.

Sources for the biographical sketches include the census, obituaries, public records, and other online databases. Hebrew and Yiddish translations of the bris book were prepared by Marion Hattenbach Bernstein, a member of the San Antonio Jewish Genealogical Society and the Texas Jewish Historical Society.

A companion volume, *Newspaper Abstracts: Rites of Circumcision in Texas from the 1870s through 1910*, is also being compiled. It abstracts articles about circumcision ceremonies published in Texas newspapers in the decades before the state's first Jewish weekly began circulating in 1908.

For more information, contact Lynna Kay Shuffield at lkshfriday@sbcglobal.net.

Lynna Kay Shuffield is a member of the Greater Houston Jewish Genealogical Society and the Texas Jewish Historical Society. She thanks Judy Weidman, Congregation Beth Israel Archivist, for sharing a digital version of the book and encouragement.

Memphis Exhibit Honors Sacred Ground

Judaism's early rabbis referred to a cemetery as a "house of the living." Since its creation 172 years ago, the Temple Israel Cemetery has become a permanent place of beauty. It stands as an everlasting tribute to the history of both the Memphis Jewish community and of Memphis itself.

Yet, seldom do most people go to a cemetery other than to bury a loved one or to visit a loved one's grave. For that reason, the Temple Israel Museum commissioned Memphis's leading photographer to create a unique photographic exhibit of the Temple Israel Cemetery. Through the keen and artistic eye of Murray Riss, this unforgettable exhibit, entitled *Beloved*, brings the cemetery into the museum so that everyone can experience the solemnity and beauty of its sacred ground.

For more than a year, Riss spent countless hours photographing the cemetery. He took more than 12,000 images in every season; during the day, the night, at dawn, and at dusk; in the sun, rain, and snow. *Beloved*, the single word most often used on the cemetery's gravestones, offers an amazing view of the cemetery previously unknown even to those who visit it.

Beloved is designed as a rotating exhibit. Of the 86 images selected for inclusion, 45 will be on display at a time. The exhibit opens in the Temple Israel Museum in September. It is made possible in part by a generous donation from the Robert T. Goldsmith Fund.

—Susan Adler Thorp, Temple Israel Museum board of trustees.



Temple Israel Cemetery.
Photo by Murray Riss.

Alabama Conference to Present New Scholarship

The inaugural American Studies Graduate Student Conference at the University of Alabama will take place in Tuscaloosa on October 4–5 with the theme, "The Local and the Global in American Studies." Featuring the research of graduate students and other scholars, the conference will enable rising scholars to share their work and meet others in a welcoming environment.

In keeping with the interdisciplinary nature of American Studies, presentations will cut across all time periods and illuminate intersections among local, national, and transnational communities. Papers will represent fields such as race, gender, Jewish, LGBTQ, disability, environmental, and media studies; history, art, literature, music, and social sciences. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Despina Kakoudaki of American University. To register or learn more, visit ams.ua.edu. Contact aamsconference@gmail.com with questions.



SJHS Conference Registration Now Open!

“Southern Jews, American Citizens”

43rd Annual SJHS Conference
Mobile, Alabama, October 26–28, 2018



Register for the conference online at jewishsouth.org/upcoming-conference.

The conference fee is \$155 for SJHS members.* To renew online, go to: jewishsouth.org/store/annual-membership.

Conference fee for non-members is \$191 (includes a \$36 individual/family membership).

Conference fee includes: Friday bus tour, lunch, and dinner; Saturday lunch and reception.

**NOTE: There is an additional Eventbrite fee for online registration. Please note that hotel must be booked separately. See page 1 for info.*

Registration deadline is September 28. Late registration fee is \$25.

To register by mail, send check to: Dr. David Meola, Department of History, University of South Alabama, 5991 USA Drive North, #344, Mobile, AL 36688. Check must be received by September 28 to avoid late fee.

Questions? Contact David Meola, dameola@southalabama.edu.