ERAMBLER &

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTHERN JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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A Memorable Time in Mobile: SJHS 2018 Conference Highlights







Sha'arai Shomayim cemetery. Photo by Eric Goldstein. Springhill Avenue Temple sanctuary; luncheon speaker Roy Hoffman. Photos by Steve Krause.

Every SJHS conference begins with a Friday morning tour of local Jewish sites—and every tour is different. In Mobile, two highlights were the beautiful Sha'arai Shomayim cemetery, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and the sanctuary of Springhill Avenue Temple (1955), cited by one travel writer as "the most spiritual place" in Alabama. Architect and congregant Harvey Gandler enriched our appreciation with his talk on the sanctuary's contemporary stained glass windows and naturalistic architectural features (such as redwood siding on the walls), which won the Temple a local preservation award.

Following the tour, panel sessions on the conference theme, "Southern Jews, American Citizens," kicked off at Spring Hill College. In a panel on "Jewish Benevolence in the South," Cynthia Gensheimer discussed the importance of 19th-century women's networks to charitable giving, Marlene Trestman examined connections between Alabama Jews and the New Orleans Jewish Orphans' Home, and Rosalind Hinton revealed the role of Jewish women in helping to rebuild the social fabric of New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina. At lunch, author and Mobile native Roy Hoffman's moving stories offered a deeply personal look at issues of southern Jewish identity, family history, and relations between Jews and other Alabamians both black and white.

At the Friday afternoon panel, "Southern Jews as Advocates and Activists," Leah Burnham illuminated the work of Atlanta volunteers in meeting the needs of Jews incarcerated in Atlanta's federal prison, while Josh Parshall revealed the commitment and contradictions displayed by members of Workmen's Circle

branches across the South. Later in the afternoon, a presentation on the Mobile Christian-Jewish Dialogue described how the city's Christians and Jews have come together through the years to sustain possibly the oldest such interfaith dialogue in the nation, still going strong today.

After Shabbat services and a delicious dinner at the Temple, keynote speaker Jeffrey Rosen of the National Constitution Center gave a spirited talk on "Louis Brandeis as a Southern Jew," sponsored by the Beeber Family Speaker Series of the Helen M. Stern Memorial Fund. He focused on how Brandeis's upbringing in Louisville, Kentucky influenced his philosophy as a proponent of Jeffersonian democracy.

Saturday's sessions took place on the campus of the University of South Alabama. In "Balancing Local and Jewish Identities," panelists Philip Spivey and Kyle Stanton analyzed Jews in late-19th-century Little Rock and mid-20th-century Houston respectively, showing how commitment to their identities as Arkansans and Texans influenced relations within the Jewish community as well as between local Jews and the broader Jewish world. A session on "Three Mensches of Mobile" profiled widely different Jewish Mobilians: Susan Thomas spoke on early-20th-century civic leader Leon Schwarz, a "joiner" who played prominent roles in the Alabama National Guard, Mobile's Mardi Gras, and the Jewish community; Dana Evan Kaplan examined the views of Rabbi Alfred G. Moses, a proponent of "Jewish Science" as a response to the Christian Scientist movement; and Steve Krause discussed his father Allen's interview with Rabbi Irving Bloom,

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Deborah R. Weiner The Rambler welcomes submissions on news relevant to southern Jewry. Send editorial inquiries to dweiner70@hotmail.com.

Send address changes to:
Barbara Tahsler
SJHS
PO Box 71601
Marietta, GA 30007-1601
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President's Message By Phyllis Leffler



I am excited and a bit awed by the opportunity to serve as president of the Southern Jewish Historical Society. I want to publicly thank the Nominating Committee and the board for the confidence placed in me, and I hope to be able to move us forward as an organization. I know that I build on the leadership of so many others before me—people who love the SJHS and who volunteer their time to keep us viable and vibrant. As I begin this journey, I want to thank Dan Puckett, past president, for leading the organization through the past two years, despite an overwhelmingly busy work and family schedule.

A New Yorker by birth, I moved to the South in 1972. My husband and I first lived in Nashville and moved to Charlottesville in 1986. It is hard for me to fathom that I've lived in "southern" communities now for 46 years. I'm still trying to figure out what being Jewish in the American South means, how it shifts depending on the community you live in, how these communities enrich our lives with friendships and opportunities and some lingering sense of vulnerability.

The SJHS has helped me enormously to think about these issues and to understand my own sense of place in community. In the early 1990s, a colleague at the University of Virginia asked if I would cooperate on a project to uncover the Jewish history of Charlottesville. I did so and that led me to the SJHS meeting in Norfolk in 2001. There I met then-president Hollace Weiner, Sumner Levine, Bernie Wax, Mark Bauman, and many others. The warmth and friendliness were unlike anything I had ever witnessed at conferences. This was an extended family and has remained so ever since.

Slowly, I was encouraged to take on roles that allowed me to witness the Society's work from the board level. I chaired the Grants Committee and at some point became secretary. I came to know about the incredibly important scholarship that we help to create and that frequently gets published in our journal, *Southern Jewish History*. I learned about the challenges of putting on annual conferences, building membership, and creating the financial stability necessary for the Society to thrive. I understand the difficulty of doing this without an executive director and with only the part-time help of wonderful Barbara Tahsler, who keeps our records and supports membership initiatives. I also know how important the role of our treasurer is and how much we owe to Les Bergen, who carried this burden for many years.

We have a great team in place. I won't mention each of them because there are too many for this initial column. Suffice it to say that Vice-President Jay Silverberg and I plan to focus intently on membership enhancement and development opportunities. We encourage any and all members to contact us with your thoughts about the growth and future of the Society. You can reach me at pleffler@virginia.edu. I look forward to hearing from you.

On the Road Again

Washington D.C.'s historicand peripatetic—Adas Israel synagogue made its third and final move in early January, to Third and F streets. Built in 1876, the district's first synagogue was saved from demolition in 1969 by being relocated to Third and G, where it hosted the Lillian & Albert Small Jewish Museum before being displaced to a temporary location in 2016. The synagogue will become part of a new Capital Jewish Museum complex, slated to open in 2021. Courtesy of Capital Jewish Museum.



"Jews, Race, and Public Memory"

44th Annual Conference of the Southern Jewish Historical Society October 25–27, 2019 Charlottesville, Virginia

The Southern Jewish Historical Society will host its 44th annual conference on October 25–27, 2019, in Charlottesville, Virginia. The conference theme is "Jews, Race, and Public Memory."

Charlottesville is well known as the home of Thomas Jefferson, founder of the University of Virginia, author of the Declaration of Independence, sponsor of the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom, and of course, third president of the United States. At his plantation, Monticello, more than 400 enslaved people lived in bondage. Yet, Jefferson was revered as the defender of religious and political liberty—and his home was preserved for almost 100 years by a Jewish family, the Levys, who had close ties to the South.

These intersections of race, religion, and public space will allow us to explore the place of Jews in the South. That ambiguous place

—both insider and outsider, sometimes white, sometimes notwhite—was fundamental to their experiences and opportunities. When the Unite the Right rally participants came to Charlottesville in August 2017, spewing antisemitic hatred and violence, the connections between white supremacy, racism, and antisemitism rose to the surface and continue to impact national discourse. The conference will spend all of Friday touring public spaces, both Monticello and the small parks that were the focus of the Unite the Right rally. Conference sessions will take place on the

grounds of the historic University of Virginia.

The official Call for Papers will be posted in early February on the SJHS website, jewishsouth.org. In the meantime, you can address inquiries about paper proposals to program chair Marni Davis at marnidavis@gsu.edu. Program committee members also include Eric Goldstein, Josh Parshall, and Stuart Rockoff.

Possible paper and panel topics, based on primary source research, include the place of Jews in the upper South; relations between African Americans and Jews; Jewish experiences as a "racial" and/or "religious" minority; Jews as insiders and outsiders; white supremacy and its impact on Jews; the impact of university towns on southern Jewish

history; how national policies affect local experiences; public histories and public memories. All topics should have a direct relationship to southern Jewish history.

Charlottesville is beautiful in late October and early November with its fall foliage and there will be time to get outside and enjoy it, weather permitting. So plan to spend a stimulating weekend with the SJHS—see you in Charlottesville!

The View from Charlottesville By Phyllis Leffler

My home city of Charlottesville has been reeling from the impact of what we are calling A12. That's the shorthand for the Unite the Right rally that brought over 500 white supremacists to town in August 2017. Chanting slogans of "Jews will not replace us," "Blood and Soil," and "Seig Heil," the antisemitic rhetoric was unmistakable. I have outlined the history leading up to those days, and the longer history of Jews in Charlottesville, in *Southern Jewish History* Volume 21 (2018).

Charlottesville has been dealing with the impact of that rally with a lot of soul searching about white



Unite the Right rally, Charlottesville, August 2017. Photo by Hannah Pearce.

privilege and racism. Could we wellmeaning "whites" be capable of unconscious race biases based on our privileged positions by virtue of color? What are the ways in which our city, long deemed a progressive and enriching place to live, has inadvertently reified race disparities? While this self-reflection has been going on, there has been little focus on the Jewish community and its efforts to deal with the antisemitism of A12 and the national increase in hate crimes against Jews. The murder of 12 people at Pittsburgh's Tree of Life Synagogue underscores the vulnerability and danger that we feel.

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Norfolk's Ohef Sholom Celebrates Three Anniversaries By Alice Titus

Anniversaries are more than just celebrations; they are reminders of where we came from, what we have accomplished,

and the people who made us what we are today.

The congregation of Ohef Sholom Temple in Norfolk, Virginia, took that thought to heart this past fall with events honoring the 100th anniversary of its current sanctuary and the 100th anniversary of the armistice that ended World War I. This year, the congregation is marking yet another important milestone—the 175th anniversary of its founding as Virginia's third Jewish congregation.

Established in 1844 by a small group of mostly German immigrants who worshipped in a member's home, Ohef Sholom has grown to some 700 families. The eventful years in between saw the congregation outgrow two buildings and lose a third in a devastating fire. There were changes in ritual as Ohef Sholom transitioned—not without turmoil-from Orthodox to Reform Judaism. The resignation of key members in 1869 tore the congregation apart but led to the founding of a Conservative synagogue that thrives to this day. A merger with Portsmouth's Temple Sinai in 2012 brought to Ohef Sholom a beloved associate rabbi as well as new members who continue to play important leadership roles.

The rededication of its 100-year-old sanctuary in October was an opportunity for Ohef Sholom to revisit that history. At the 1918 dedication, the 600-seat sanctuary overflowed, as people stood in the back and lined the aisles. Participants included Norfolk's mayor, pastors of neighboring churches, and a nationally known Reform rabbi from Richmond. Officiating was Ohef Sholom's rabbi Louis Mendoza, whose oratorical skill and commitment to interfaith understanding had endeared him to

the Norfolk Jewish community and larger Tidewater community alike.





City Councilwoman Andrea McClellan, Rabbi Rick Jacobs, State Senator Lynwood Lewis, Councilwoman Courtney Doyle, Cantor Jennifer Rueben, Rabbi Rosalin Mandelberg, Mayor Kenny Alexander, Rabbi Emeritus Lawrence Forman, State Delegate Jay Jones, and Congressman Bobby Scott at the October 13 sanctuary rededication. *Photo by Steve Budman*.

Congresswoman Elaine Luria, congregant Dorianne Villani, Rabbi Mandelberg, and Cantor Rueben at the November 11 bench dedication. *Photo by David Titus*.

One hundred years later, the rededication brought together former rabbis, public officials, members of the clergy from diverse religious traditions, and a nationally prominent rabbi. The ceremony began with a processional of students, past presidents, and congregational leaders. Rabbi Rosalin Mandelberg and Cantor Jennifer Rueben led the gathering in prayer and song. Norfolk's current mayor presented a city proclamation, followed by an inspiring and timely sermon from Rabbi Rick Jacobs, president of the Union for Reform Judaism.

On Veteran's Day the following month, the congregation dedicated a bench to veterans and current members of the armed services and unveiled a display in honor of four members who served in World War I. Newly elected congresswoman Elaine Luria, a congregant and distinguished Navy veteran, gave the address. The dedication was followed by a program on homelessness among veterans.

This year, numerous programs and events are planned to mark another important milestone in the history of this vibrant congregation: its 175th anniversary. In the words spoken by Rabbi Louis Mendoza just over 100

years ago, "We have built this temple for the strength of Judaism. It shall not be a mausoleum, but a living part of our lives. Here we shall find an interpretation to the problems of life, and here we shall exemplify the words which are engraved above the portico, 'My House Shall be a House of Prayer for all Peoples."

Alice Titus is Archivist of Ohef Sholom Temple in Norfolk.

The View from Charlottesville continued from page 3...

Within the Charlottesville Jewish community, there is a constant focus on security needs: security guard(s), locked doors requiring entry codes, upgraded protections for the building. And with good reason. There have been incidents of swastikas painted on a downtown building (not the synagogue) and on November 28, many people in the city received a robocall asking, "Who killed Heather Heyer?" The response: the "Jew Mayor boss" and "Negro Police Chief," following a "Jewish agenda for displacement of whites in America." Again, hate and fear mongering with extreme racist and antisemitic content. The

calls coincided with the trial of James Fields Jr., the 20-year-old who drove his car into a group of counter-protesters, killed Heyer, and wounded multiple others.

Perhaps antisemitic incidents have also led to soul searching in your communities. How can we collectively understand the enormous rise of hate crimes in this country since 2016, many of them targeting Jews? How does southern Jewish history help us to understand the complex interactions of race, religion, privilege, and power in America? Come to Charlottesville in 2019: this is what we will be exploring.

who spoke from the pulpit in support of black civil rights and participated in local civil rights activities.

After lunch, a panel on "Jewish Soldiers and the American South" ranged widely. Shari Rabin and Adam Demby regaled the gathering with the Civil War-era exploits of Simon Gerstman, a "rabbi con man," sometime soldier, and "big fat liar and a fraud." Hollace Weiner recounted how the experience of two Fort Worth Jewish soldiers was shaped by the determination of military leaders to unify an ethnically diverse 20thcentury American fighting force into a "melting pot army." David Weinfeld analyzed the World War II letters of SJHS founder Saul Viener, whose Jewish identity was sharpened during his time overseas.

Saturday afternoon's Helen M. Stern Cultural Encounter featured a musical presentation on three Jewish Mobilians, Joseph Bloch and the Schlesinger brothers, who played influential roles in the local musical scene as well as in American Jewish liturgical music during the 19th century. A lecture by musicologist Judah Cohen, with music provided by tenor Thomas Rowell and pianist Laura Moore, brought this fascinating but little-known story to tuneful life.

At the Sunday morning membership meeting, leadership of the SJHS passed from outgoing president Dan J. Puckett to incoming president Phyllis Leffler. Please see page 2 for a list of new board officers.

The final conference panel, "Patriotism and Human Rights in World II," looked at Jewish citizenship from three perspectives. Spotlighting military chaplain rabbis Alexander Goode (one of the martyred Four Chaplains) and Sidney Lefkowitz, Edward Shapiro emphasized the outsized role Jews played as emblematic Americans; Joshua Furman traced the story of a hand-sewn banner created by a Houston congregation to honor Jewish fighting men and women; and Marilyn Grace Miller told of more than 80 German Jewish refugees who were deported from their Latin American havens by the U.S. government and interned with other Germans (many of them Nazis) as enemy aliens.

Thanks are due to program chair Scott Langston and local arrangements chair David Meola, whose efforts enabled conference goers to enjoy a stimulating weekend of discourse and discussion on the Gulf Coast. Thanks also to members of the Jewish community of Mobile for their gracious hospitality!















Scenes from the Mobile conference. At top, panelists Mark Bauman, Adam Demby, Shari Rabin, and David Weinfeld discuss Jewish soldiers. Photos by Steve Krause.

Still Thriving After All These Years: Savannah's Mickve Israel at 285

By Herbert L. Victor

In July 1733, the *William and Sarah* landed in Savannah with 41 Jewish passengers. Among them was Dr. Samuel Nunes Ribiero, who saved the five-month-old Georgia colony from a rampant epidemic that had killed many colonists. Nunes, with his invaluable medical background, and the other 40 Jews were welcomed because they could help to build the colony, replacing settlers who had died. They were immediately given the same rights and privileges as other Georgia colonists, a first for Jews in America.

These early Jews came to Georgia to create a Jewish community, bringing with them a Torah and a circumcision kit. They soon established a mikveh, a cemetery, and a congregation, Mickve Israel.

Today, Savannah's Jewish community and Mickve Israel are thriving. As it celebrated its 285th anniversary in 2018, the congregation crossed the 400-family marker for the first time ever, and hosted over 10,000 guests who toured its sanctuary and museum. A major restoration of the 140-year-old sanctuary is just about complete. Along with these milestones, the year saw Mickve Israel hold a variety of unique programs for Savannah's Jewish community, the general community, and visitors.

Coinciding with the city's well-known St. Patrick's Day celebration, in March Mickve Israel presented an exhibit from Ireland, "Representations of Jews in Irish Literature," co-sponsored by Atlanta's Irish Consulate General and Georgia Southern University's Center for Irish Research and Teaching. Accompanying the exhibit (previously displayed in the U.S. only at Columbia and Georgetown universities)

were programs on Irish-Jewish autobiographies, Daniel O'Connell (hero to Ireland's Catholics and Jews), Savannah's Irish-Jewish connections (including Mickve Israel's rabbi for 42 years, George Solomon, whose mother was an Irish immigrant), and an "Irish-Jewish Celebration through Words and Music."

In May, Mickve Israel's History and Heritage Committee sponsored speaker Michael Jordan, a Savannah history videographer whose latest video focuses on the CSS *Georgia*, a Confederate gunboat recently dredged from the bottom of the

Savannah River. The gunboat, built to defend Savannah during the Civil War, had been funded by the Ladies Gunboat Association, which included five Mickve Israel congregants.

Mickve Israel celebrated its 285th anniversary in July with Shabbat services featuring Rabbi David Saperstein, longtime director of the Union for Reform Judaism's Religious Action Center. Rabbi Saperstein discussed the history of social justice from biblical Judaism to today, including how it has connected with Mickve Israel history.





Mickve Israel's Shalom Y'All Jewish Food Festival celebrated its 30th anniversary this past fall.

Top: Carol Greenberg blows the shofar.

Bottom: Annette Carnow, Carol Kramberg-Walker,
Bruce Walker, Jack Coburn, and Barry Carnow.

Courtesy of Mickve Israel and Becky Smith Flaxer.

The busy year culminated in October with a signature Mickve Israel event, the popular Shalom Y'All Jewish Food Festival, which celebrated its 30th anniversary. Each year, several thousand Savannahians and tourists enjoy traditional Jewish foods including blintzes, kugel, chopped liver, challah, latkes, and more. Opened and closed with the sounding of the shofar, the festival also features Jewish music and dance. Its name, venue, and size have changed over the years, becoming one of Savannah's favorite festival events and possibly the largest Jewish food festival in America. (If you have not had this experience, y'all come next year on October 27 to get a taste of Jewish Savannah.)

The festival provides an opportunity for Mickve Israel members to work together as a community while offering outreach to Savannah's Jewish and general communities. Sadly, this year's festival occurred the day after the Pittsburgh Tree of Life synagogue massacre. There was a touch of sadness in the air, but congregants were moved by the individual expressions of sympathy and solidarity from those in attendance.

Since landing in Savannah 285 years ago, Jews have been involved in all aspects of Savannah life and history. The seeds that those earliest Jews planted, as well as those who came to Savannah since, have blossomed, allowing Mickve Israel and Savannah's Jewish community to grow and thrive.

Herbert L. Victor is a retired educator, lifelong Mickve Israel congregant, and a co-chair of Mickve Israel's History and Heritage Committee.

Society News

The SJHS welcomes two old friends as new board members for 2019. Incoming vice president Jay Silverberg, co-manager of California-based Silverberg Communications, previously served on the board and leads the Development Committee. Incoming treasurer David Meola holds the Bert and Fannie Meisler chair in Jewish Studies at the University of South Alabama, and chaired the Local Arrangements Committee for the Mobile conference.

Congratulations to co-authors Eric Goldstein (SJHS secretary) and Deborah Weiner (Rambler editor), longtime Society members, whose book On Middle Ground: A History of the Jews of Baltimore was named a 2018 finalist for the National Book Award in American Jewish Studies.

NEWS AND NOTES

JHSSC Reflects on Quarter Century, Looks to the Future

The Jewish Historical Society of South Carolina was formally inaugurated in 1994 to study, preserve, and promote the history and culture of the Jews of South Carolina. As with many other such historical societies, its founders were acutely aware of the decline and disappearance of Jewish life in small towns across the state, and rallied with advocates in the statehouse and at the College of Charleston to document and protect our Jewish history.

Twenty-five years later, the JHSSC is South Carolina's largest statewide Jewish organization, with regular meetings, digitized cemetery records, state historical markers, a biannual magazine, robust archives, and oral histories produced by the staff of the Jewish Heritage Collection at the College of Charleston's Addlestone Library. Our newest initiative, the Jewish Merchant Project, may be our most ambitious yet, seeking to document and portray the vibrant history of Jewish merchants who have made their lives in the Palmetto State. A complementary exhibit will launch during the Society's 25th anniversary meeting May 18–19 in Charleston.

JHSSC history and the Jewish Merchant Project will be the meeting's core themes, as well as exploring what the next 25 years of Jewish life in South Carolina will look like. Featured speakers include historian Steve Whitfield and Charlotte rabbi Judy Schindler. Please join us! To learn more, visit jhssc.org.



Judah and Hannah Yelman's dry goods store, St. Matthews, 1930. Courtesy of Special Collections, College of Charleston Libraries.

Dallas Jewish Historical Society Opens Exhibit, Plans Workshops

The Dallas Jewish Historical Society has collaborated with the University of Dallas to bring a snapshot of Jewish Dallas to campus. The exhibition "Jewish Dallas: An Enduring Legacy," on display through March 2019, views the Jewish presence in Dallas from the mid-1800s to today. Dallas's rich mercantile and cultural history was heavily influenced by the Jewish population, with many families maintaining roots in the city for four generations or more. The exhibition profiles historic businesses, temples, and community organizations as well as important individuals and families.

Also, plans are underway for DJHS Scanning Days, to help people preserve and share family photos, as well as a Photo ID Workshop offered by DJHS Archivist Jessica Schneider, who will present a basic tutorial on early photographic types, photo identification, and the process of preserving and managing personal collections.



Shearith Israel groundbreaking, 1919, from the "Jewish Dallas' exhibition. *Courtesy of DJHS*.

DJHS Lecture Series Named for Jim Schwartz

The DJHS lost a leader and friend with the passing of its most recent past president, Jim Schwartz. In his honor, the DJHS lecture series has been renamed the Jim Schwartz Annual Lecture Series. The 2019 series kicked off in January with author Mark Stuertz, whose book *Secret Dallas: A Guide to the Weird, Wonderful and Obscure* takes readers on an excursion through the wonderful idiosyncrasies that comprise Big D.

Lectures in the series are free and open to the public, serving as a means to introduce people to the Society and interest them in membership. The next Schwartz lecture will be in March, when Carmen Goldthwaite tells of "Texas Dames: Sassy and Savvy Women throughout Lone Star History."

A Busy Semester for Charleston's Center for Southern Jewish Culture



My Food Is My Flag
a conversation about Jewish, african
american, and southern foodways
APRIL 9, 2019
7PM

An exhibit of southern Jewish family photographs curated by students of Shari Rabin, director of the Pearlstine/Lipov Center for Southern Jewish Culture at the College of Charleston, has been mounted at the Jewish Studies Center. On March 31, historian Pamela Nadell will speak on the southern dimensions of her new book, *America's Jewish Women: A History from Colonial Times to Today (Norton, 2018). On April 9, food historian Marcie Cohen Ferris and James Beard Award-winning chef and author Michael Twitty will lead "My Food Is My Flag: A Conversation about Jewish, African American, and Southern Foodways."

Over the next few months the Center will host three research fellows: Philippe Girard (McNeese State University), Melissa Klapper (Rowan University), and Lucas Wilson (Florida Atlantic University). Plans are underway for the Center's NEH Summer Institute for College and University Professors, "Privilege and Prejudice: Jewish History in the American South," to be held May 27–June 7.

For more information about the institute go to jewishsouthsummer.cofc.edu/. To keep up with the CSJC's activities, follow us on Facebook or visit our website, jewish-south.cofc.edu/.



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The SJHS advances the study, preservation, and presentation of the Jewish experience in the American South. We award prizes and research grants, publish original scholarship, support exhibitions, and hold a stimulating annual conference. Members receive the quarterly *Rambler* and our annual journal, *Southern Jewish History*. You must be a member to attend the annual conference.



Our major source of funding is membership dues. To join online or to send a check by mail, visit **jewishsouth.org/store/annual-membership** for details. Please join us today!

SJHS 2018 Grants Announced

The SJHS awarded grants to seven exciting projects in 2018. Congratulations to all!

- Research/Travel Grants went to Josef Nothmann for his dissertation project, "Cotton Jews' and Speculative Spinners"; Dr. Melissa Klapper, for her book project, At Home in the World: American Jewish Women Abroad, 1865-1939; and Sally Wolff King for her book project on the Wolff Brothers department stores.
- Scott and Donna Langston Archival Grants went to the Houston Jewish History Archive at Rice University to process the records of Houston's Congregation Beth Yeshurun; and the University of Houston Center for Public History, to transcribe and preserve oral histories for the project "Documenting Disaster in Jewish Meyerland."
- Helen Stern Foundation program grants went to the Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington for its Downtown Jewish Washington Walking Tour brochure; and Elizabeth Johnson, to support development of a Tennessee Jewish Heritage Trail.

For more information and to learn how to apply for a grant, visit jewishsouth.org/sjhs-grants-applications.