



SJHS 2019: Our Day Touring Monticello and Historic Charlottesville



Downtown Charlottesville, Monticello, Uriah P. Levy, and the grave of Rachel Levy. *Wikicommons*.

The SJHS has exciting plans for our 44th annual conference, to be held October 25–27 in Charlottesville. On Friday the 25th we will spend much of the day visiting special sites related to the conference theme, “Jews, Race, and Public Memory.”

We will begin the day—bright and early!—with a trip to Monticello, the mountaintop home of Thomas Jefferson. The stewards of this important site of national interest have taken seriously the need to expand their narratives beyond Jefferson to include the entire plantation community. A transformation has taken place at Monticello, as slavery and the role enslaved persons played in sustaining the plantation and community are now more fully addressed.

We will arrive before any other visitors come (the views are sensational), and learn from our tour guides how their historical interpretations have changed over time. We will tour the house and visit the African American outside sites. We will also learn about the history of Monticello in the years after Jefferson’s death. Monticello was owned and maintained for close to a century by the Levy family of New York—first by Uriah Levy, and subsequently by Jefferson Monroe Levy. Uriah’s mother, Rachel Levy, is buried at Monticello, and the story of the Levy family is presented through a visit to Rachel’s gravesite. Thus, both the history of American Jews and the history of race are visible at Monticello.

Lunch will take place at the Brody Hillel Jewish Center at the University of Virginia. Our lunchtime speaker is Marc Leepson,

journalist and author of *Saving Monticello: The Levy Family’s Epic Quest to Rescue the House that Jefferson Built*. Leepson has graciously agreed to spend the morning with us at Monticello, so we will have lots of time to learn from him and enjoy his company.

Our tour continues in downtown Charlottesville after lunch. Conference attendees will be able to choose from a number of activities. SJHS president Phyllis Leffler will lead a walking tour of Jewish life in downtown Charlottesville in the 19th and early 20th centuries. In addition, the Albemarle Charlottesville Historical Society will be hosting an exhibit on Jewish life in Charlottesville. Downtown Charlottesville also offers opportunity to think about the interplay of historical memory and current events: in the center of downtown, across from the historical society and one block from the synagogue, are the statues of Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson. We will explore the connection of those Confederate statues to the white supremacist “Unite the Right” rally of 2017.

On Friday evening, Shabbat services will be held at the historic Congregation Beth Israel synagogue. Dinner and an evening program will follow.

These will be busy days in Charlottesville, so **it is important that hotel rooms be reserved early**. For information on conference hotels, see page 2. For any further conference details, check jewishsouth.org/upcoming-conference.

—Marni Davis, Program Chair of the SJHS 2019 conference.



Officers and Board 2019

PRESIDENT

Phyllis Leffler

VICE PRESIDENT

Jay Silverberg

SECRETARY

Eric Goldstein

TREASURER

David Meola

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Dan J. Puckett

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ron Bayor

Michael Cohen

Sharon Fahrer

Dana Herman

Jeremy Katz

Adam Meyer

Josh Parshall

Jim Pfeifer

Shari Rabin

Teri Tillman

Bernie Wax (emeritus)

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Shari Rabin

JOURNAL EDITOR

Mark Bauman

Phone: 678.828.7484

Cell: 678.428.3622

markkbauman@aol.com

JOURNAL MANAGING EDITOR

Bryan Edward Stone

bstone@delmar.edu

JOURNAL FOUNDING MANAGING EDITOR

Rachel Heimovics Braun

RAMBLER EDITOR

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

barbarasjhs@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP

Bonnie Eisenman

Phone: 804.741.9010

bseisenman@comcast.net

President's Message By Phyllis Leffler



We lived in troubled times. In America and abroad, white supremacists are acting on their rage toward non-white “others” who seek to enjoy the benefits of peace, citizenship, and basic rights in the lands they inhabit. Charlottesville, where I live, is still grappling with the aftermath of the “Unite the Right” rally of August 2017, when neo-Nazis paraded through the streets, identified the synagogue as a target, and killed one person, Heather Heyer. In Pittsburgh, the slaughter of 12 congregants at the Tree of Life synagogue casts a dark shadow over that city. And, as I write this column, we are witnessing the burials of more than 50 members of the Muslim community in Christchurch, New Zealand who were gunned down during Friday prayer services. Hate crimes are up across America for the fourth year in a row and antisemitism is on a steep rise. White supremacists target the non-white and non-Christian populations as defilers of racial purity.

I write this not to spread fear and doom. I write rather to encourage activism against those who would tarnish our embrace of immigrants and our ideals of a multi-ethnic and multi-racial polity. And I write to suggest that one form of activism is the study and promotion of the experiences of Jews in America. We know that there have been times when antisemitism has been more virulent. We know that some of those times relate to the southern Jewish experience. Documenting and speaking about that history is an important way to bring attention to the contributions as well as the challenges faced by Jews in a region that has resisted full equality and diversity.

I find that I am being called on in Charlottesville to speak about the experiences of Charlottesville's Jews. I now speak in churches and public venues on a regular basis. I find there is a very large interest in learning that history from non-Jews. Each time I speak, I feel that I am taking a public stand to educate people about the place of a tiny Jewish minority. I am building understanding and empathy—hopefully not just toward Jews but toward all minority groups in America that grapple with definitions of “otherness.”

continued on page 3...



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

Book Your Hotel Room Early!

Two hotels have been reserved at special conference rates for October 24–27 in Charlottesville.

- The **English Inn** is located two miles from the university building where SJHS sessions will be held. Privately run, it tries to create the atmosphere of a country inn in an urban space! It features an airport shuttle, high speed internet, pool, fitness center, and complimentary hot breakfast and sits across from Bodo's, Charlottesville's popular bagel restaurant. **Fifty rooms have been reserved, but that number will drop to 30 after August 24. Final cut-off date for the conference rate is September 24.** To book at the conference rate (\$109 to \$119 plus tax), you must call the hotel desk at 434-971-9900. The group rate code is Southern Jewish Historical Society.

- The **Hampton Inn of Charlottesville** is located three miles from the conference site, next to a shopping center with many restaurants in walking distance. It offers free shuttle service to the airport and to campus, free internet, and the traditional Hampton Inn breakfast (with less seating than the English Inn). **Thirty rooms have been reserved, with a cut-off date of September 24 for the conference rate.** Call 434-978-7888, or book online through the SJHS website, jewishsouth.org/upcoming-conference. For the conference rate (\$159 plus tax), the group code is SJH.

Buses for the conference will pick up from both hotels and conference materials will be available at both sites. Please be aware that the popular Charlottesville Film Festival will take place during the conference weekend. Hotel rates near the university or downtown Charlottesville will be very high. We are fortunate that these rooms were blocked early.

The Shapell Roster, the Civil War, and a Little Broken Ring

By Eliza Kolander

Louis Merz was born in Bavaria on November 8, 1833. He immigrated to the United States, arriving in West Point, Georgia, in 1854, and other family members soon followed.

When the Civil War began, Louis Merz enlisted. During the conflict, he also served as a correspondent for the *LaGrange* (Georgia) *Reporter* under the name “Beauregard.” After his death at the Battle of Antietam, the *Reporter* offered this memorial:

“Were it practicable, it would be but just, to preserve a biography of each of our soldiers who falls while standing as a wall of defense between us and our implacable foes. A volume of such records would be invaluable to future generations. . . Were such a book opened we would claim the privilege to inscribe in it, high amongst the good, the true-hearted and the brave, the name which heads this article.”

The Shapell Manuscript Foundation is attempting to make such a resource for Jews who served in the American Civil War.

Over the past ten years, Shapell Manuscript Foundation researchers have unearthed a treasure trove of information on Union and Confederate Jews, giving life to a buried record of the Jewish immigrant experience and American patriotism. What began as an endeavor to corroborate a long-antiquated list of Jews who served during the Civil War has become a monumental work that will significantly contribute to the scholarship on Jews in America in the 19th and early 20th centuries. The body of research derives from hundreds of primary and secondary sources, descendants, historians, and genealogists. The records include Jewish soldiers’ detailed military history, photographs, letters, newspaper clippings, diaries, and more.

Primary sources for the Merz story are extensive: newspaper articles, obituaries, letters spanning 100 years, and six months of wartime life transcribed in a diary. These documents engage the human side of history and reveal fascinating narratives, such as the story of a little broken ring.

After the Battle of Antietam, soldiers of the 102nd Pennsylvania Infantry came across Merz’s body. As an 1875 article in the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* titled “The Little Broken Ring” relates,



Louis Merz. Courtesy of Chattahoochee Valley Historical Society.

“On account of his cleanly appearance they concluded to bury the body. They dug a hole with their swords. Previous to covering him, upon examination, they found a letter in female handwriting, which proved to be a letter from a mother to her son. . . . Upon the person was found an old broken ring.”

The officers of the regiment agreed that Adjutant (and later General) Joseph Browne should keep the letter and ring, a gift to Merz from his mother, and attempt to return it if he ever had the chance.

The war continued and Merz’s effects fell between the metaphorical cracks. In 1875, when looking through his old papers, Browne found the ring and decided to find the relatives of the dead soldier. He wrote a note to Georgia governor Joseph Brown, who communicated with the railroad agent at West Point and Louis’s brother, Daniel Merz.

The *Post-Gazette* article quoted from the letter Daniel Merz wrote to Joseph Browne of Pennsylvania, eloquently expressing his gratitude: “War is a bitter calamity, yet with all its necessary accompanying circumstances we often behold the bright and better part of humankind. Such, my dear sir, was your and your companions’ kind act.”

Upon receipt of the letter, Browne sent a small package to Daniel Merz, returning the little ring once more to West Point and the banks of the Chattahoochee River.

This short story is one of countless that can be discovered through the documents and information found within the Shapell Roster, the first-ever comprehensive data archive documenting the Jewish soldiers who served in the American Civil War. The Roster’s free searchable database will go live with a limited set of records during 2019; more records will be added as additional research is completed. In the meantime, see shapell.org/roster for information, stories, and updates.

Did your Jewish ancestor serve in the Civil War? Help us complete the Shapell Roster. Contact eliza@shapell.org to connect.

Eliza Kolander is Outreach Specialist for the Shapell Roster Project, Shapell Manuscript Foundation. Thanks to Jack Myers for the Pittsburgh article.

President’s Message

continued from page 2...

For me, this is why the Southern Jewish Historical Society is more important than ever. We build larger understanding through the research that is supported by our grant programs, through our conferences, and through our publications. In many ways, SJHS is fighting the battle to combat ignorance, to build deeper understanding of the complexities within communities, and to use history to relate the past and present.

It is more important than ever that we try to expand our scope to reach more people. It is more important than ever that we

support more scholars in the field, that we help with archival preservation of records, that we promote public programs and exhibits in communities across the South. It is more important than ever that we build our membership to reach more people. It is more important than ever that we address critical historical issues that have contemporary relevance through our conferences.

We have ambitious plans to expand the reach of SJHS. Stay tuned for more information about these goals. And please plan to come to Charlottesville for our 44th annual conference.

Charlottesville's Jewish History Part One: The Early Years

By Phyllis Leffler

Charlottesville, Virginia, is a small city of around 50,000 people. Located in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, it is surrounded by the estates and wineries of Albemarle County, one of the richest counties in America. The city is well known for its beautiful scenery and the homes nearby of three American presidents: Thomas Jefferson, James Monroe, and James Madison. Charlottesville is also home to The University of Virginia, Thomas Jefferson's "hobby" in his old age, ranked for years among the top three public universities in the nation. With its scenic beauty and its cultural attributes (including tons of bookstores), Charlottesville is considered one of the finest places to live in America.

But what do we know of its Jewish past? Where does that figure in the genteel story of the American South?

We know that just a handful of Jews settled in Charlottesville in the colonial and early national periods, not nearly enough to found a real community or to create a synagogue. Some were merchants with ties to the large Jewish community in Richmond, some 70 miles away. One of them, David Isaacs, opened a general store and sold goods to Thomas Jefferson and his overseer—including the ball of twine that laid out the contours of the first University of Virginia buildings. Perhaps more important, Isaacs obtained for Jefferson books and pamphlets on the Jewish faith. Jefferson's commitment to religious toleration, laid out in the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom, and his deep interest in understanding diverse religious traditions, made Virginia (and Charlottesville) a reasonably comfortable place for Jews to live.

It was not until the mid-19th century that Jews settled in Charlottesville in any significant numbers. Immigration to the U.S. nearly tripled in the 1840s, with close to 2 million new arrivals. German, Irish, British, and French emigres came seeking freedom and opportunity. A number of Jewish families settled in Charlottesville during this period. These families, all from Bavaria, became a real presence in the town. They included Bernard and Mathilde Oberdorfer, Simon and

Hannah Leterman, Isaac and Mathilde Leterman, and Moses and Hannah Kaufman. Simon and Isaac were brothers. Hannah Kaufman was Simon and Hannah's daughter, and her husband Moses was her first cousin, who came to the U.S. at age 11 as the ward of his uncles Isaac and Simon. All these families produced a large number of offspring—between 10 and 12 children each—creating a real community that necessitated the creation of the Hebrew Benevolent (burial) Society and finally in 1882, the founding of Charlottesville's first synagogue, Congregation Beth Israel.

They were Charlottesville's leading merchants, creating the largest stores ever to exist in the region. As was typical, many of the sons took over these businesses. In 1899, Simon Leterman's sons combined their resources to create a block-long department store and one of the most successful businesses in Charlottesville. But it appears they were overextended, since the store was forced into bankruptcy in 1909. In 1904, B. Oberdorfer and Sons announced a dissolution sale for their store, although it seems they opened another establishment.

These founding families invested in the civic and cultural life of the city. They won seats on the city council, served as directors of the main bank, helped found the Chamber of Commerce, and served on the school board. Moses Kaufman was so beloved for his commitment to Charlottesville's school system that when he died in 1898 at age 51, the schools closed for his funeral. Oberdorfer and Leterman sons helped run the Levy Opera House in the late 19th century and then created the Jefferson Theater; Moses Kaufman's son Sol helped create the Charlottesville Municipal Band in 1922.

Charlottesville's Jews were insiders to the life of the community in the second half of the 19th century. They were movers and shakers, respected for their business acumen and civic and cultural engagement. In our next issue, we will follow the Jewish community into the 20th century.

Phyllis Leffler has lived in Charlottesville since 1986 and is currently expanding her research on the Jewish community there.



Top: Leterman's Department Store. Courtesy of Phyllis Leffler.
Bottom: Congregation Beth Israel. Courtesy of the congregation.

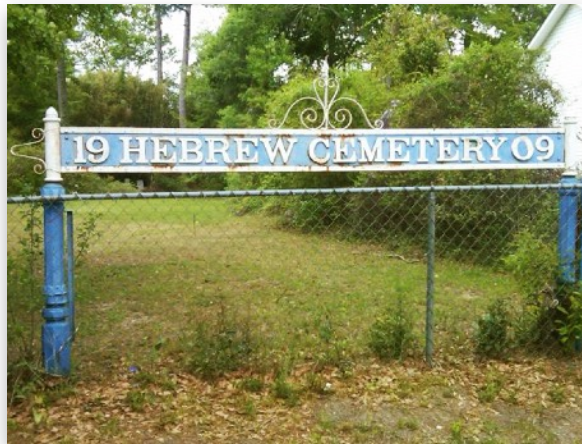
Thomasville Synagogue Launches Preservation Campaign By Robert Milberg

B'nai Israel Synagogue of Thomasville, Georgia, has launched a campaign to raise an endowment to maintain the town's historic synagogue and Hebrew cemetery, and all are encouraged to contribute. Here is a report from one of the campaign organizers, Robert Milberg.

As with many smaller southern towns, times have changed and our Jewish population has dwindled. Nine months of the year we have services led by the rabbi of Tallahassee, Florida's Temple Israel, 30 miles away. We no longer have enough local members to financially or physically maintain the Jewish cemetery. A local source can do the physical maintenance, but we must find a way to pay the cost of proper upkeep.

The solution is for us to raise at least \$75,000, to be put in an endowment account at the Community Foundation of South Georgia, Inc., to produce the yearly income necessary to cover this cost.

B'nai Israel Synagogue and Cemetery, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, together represent the nearly 175-year Jewish presence in Thomasville. Among



Wikicommons.

Georgia's few remaining pre-World War II synagogues, B'nai Israel is significant because its Romanesque Revival design is representative of synagogues built throughout the rural South. The synagogue is the most intact example of a pre-World War II Georgia synagogue built for Orthodox Jewish worship, with a balcony, or *machitzah*, for separation of the sexes. The cemetery, northwest of the synagogue, comprises about one acre with a cast-iron entrance sign that reads, "19 Hebrew Cemetery 09."

We have a pledge to match donations up to \$18,000. Be a contributor to this fund. Help maintain its upkeep in perpetuity as a link in that unbroken chain that binds us together. Please make your contribution to:

Community Foundation of South Georgia, Inc.

B'nai Israel Synagogue Fund

P.O. Box 2654

Thomasville, GA 31799-2654

Robert Milberg, a retired CPA/Investment Advisor who has lived in Thomasville for 48 years, is a member of B'nai Israel and Tallahassee's Temple Israel.

The Value of the Southern Jewish Historical Society

As the SJHS embarks on a campaign to attract new members and funding (see the President's Message on page 2), the Rambler announces a new occasional column highlighting the considerable impact the Society has made over the decades. Our first entry comes from member Sharon Fahrner of Asheville, North Carolina.

"For me as a local historian, the SJHS has been an incredible asset. It has provided a larger context for our local history, shown the universality of our Asheville stories, and connected us to southern Jewish history and beyond. Having the journal as well as the support and encouragement of the society has enabled me to fulfill my passion to bring history to the streets through interpretive panels, books, and walking tours.

"The SJHS has given our community the confidence to reveal an often purposefully hidden history to our larger community. Personally I have been able to interact with scholars who would not normally have been as accessible to a non-academic. It has also been a way to visit and learn about other Jewish communities around the South, compare resources, and incubate ideas. As a southerner-by-choice this has opened up a whole new world of discovery!

"So thanks SJHS. I am proud of all our accomplishments."

Sharon Fahrner is a "self-proclaimed" Asheville historian whose many community history projects include The Family Store: A History of Jewish Businesses in Downtown Asheville, 1880-1990, which featured an 11-panel exhibit placed in downtown businesses, a book, an archive, and a walking tour.

If you would like to submit your own testimonial, please email SJHS editor Deb Weiner, dweiner70@hotmail.com.

Historic Temple Anniversary in Northeast Louisiana

By Sandra Blate

Temple B'nai Israel is celebrating 150 years as a continuous congregation in Monroe, Louisiana. The congregation has persevered through wars, attendance fluctuations, periods where congregants moved away and returned, and three different temple buildings.

A predecessor congregation formed in 1859 and took the name Congregation Hebrew Manassas upon founding a cemetery in 1861, after the Battle of Manassas. But the Civil War put a halt to services until 1868, when in September, B'nai Israel was formed. Descendants still living in Monroe can trace their lineage back to the founding members. So, we are eagerly celebrating our 150th year of worship with multiple events throughout 2018–2019.

In honor of the anniversary, a new outdoor artwork was donated to the Temple. When lit at night, it displays a beautiful Chanukah menorah against the wall. Dedicated on March 29, the menorah was designed by Doyle Jeter, artist-in-residence at University of Louisiana, Monroe, with materials and fabrication by Sol's Pipe and Steel.

Tours of our Precious Legacy Museum and the Temple took place in September for the St. Paul's United Methodist Church confirmation class and in early April for the Red Hat Ladies of Bastrop, Louisiana. Participants learned about Jewish culture, local Jewish history, and the Holocaust. As this issue goes to press, the Temple was set to host a Passover Community Seder open to Jews and non-Jews. A Holocaust Remembrance service open to the public will take place on May 10. During this service, grand prize winners from the Holocaust Poetry and Essay Contest will have their entries read aloud.

Temple B'nai Israel is the center of Jewish life in northeast Louisiana. For more about our historic congregation and our Precious Legacy Museum & Archives, see bayoujews.org.

Sandra Blate serves as Administrative Director of the Precious Legacy Archives/Museum, a project of Congregation B'nai Israel and the Temple Sisterhood. In 1962, she and her husband were the first couple to get married in B'nai Israel's current building



Top: B'nai Israel today. Photo by Caitlin Struth.



Left: The Chanukah Menorah sculpture outside of the temple. Photo by Judy Ginsburgh. Courtesy of Precious Legacy Archives/Museum, Congregation B'nai Israel.

Leonard Dinnerstein, 1934–2019

The death of Leonard Dinnerstein makes possible a glum but inevitable reckoning with the entire arc of an invaluable academic career. It began at the intersection of southern Jewish history and the annals of antisemitism, with the publication of his revised dissertation, *The Leo Frank Case* (1966). An episode that fearful Jews in Georgia were reluctant to mention among themselves, or to discuss with their children, Dinnerstein helped make into an act of antisemitic violence that has become more notorious than any other.

With the assistance of a co-editor, Dinnerstein then activated the scholarly study of the southern Jewish past with an anthology, *Jews in the South* (1973). It is by far the best of the early anthologies, a base camp from which others could depart to write not only articles but books about the Jewish experience in the region. Both of these volumes have been superseded, which inevitably

happens in a field that is intriguing enough to attract later generations of researchers.



Dinnerstein moved on to concentrate mostly on American antisemitism in the essay collection *Uneasy at Home* (1987) and in *American Antisemitism* (1994). The latter survey carried him to empiricist extremes, and so strenuously avoids conceptual issues that it devotes less than a paragraph to defining such bigotry. But Dinnerstein's works remain indispensable in recording the history of a phenomenon that does not seem to vanish. I knew him only slightly, mostly when our research in the archives of the American Jewish Historical Society coincided. But anyone curious about his twin interests—and especially their intersection—owes the late Leonard Dinnerstein an incalculable debt.

—Stephen J. Whitfield, *Brandeis University*

NEWS AND NOTES

Richmond's Beth Ahabah Museum Opens New Exhibit

If I am only for myself, what am I? [Pirkei Avot 1:14]

Beth Ahabah Museum & Archives opened a new exhibit in April 2019. *Beyond the Temple Walls: A Commitment to Community* focuses on the many ways Richmond Jews have given back to the larger community over the past two centuries. Contributing to the common good is an obligation of all Jewish people, regardless of their wealth or wishes. This exhibit tells how individuals, families, and organizations, both past and present, have interpreted their obligation to restore the world. About two dozen individuals are featured, including Solomon Jacobs, an early civic leader; Mrs. Fanny Heller Straus, the first president of the Hebrew Benevolent Association; Charles Hutzler, chair of the Richmond School Board; Naomi Cohn, a charter member of the Virginia League



of Women Voters; Sam Troy, a tireless fundraiser; and storyteller Jacqueline Viener.

The exhibit will be on display at least through 2019. Open hours are Sunday–Thursday, 10 am to 3 pm. For more information, go to bethahabah.org and click on “Heritage.”

Zipporah Michelbacher Cohen led Richmond's Ladies' Hebrew Benevolent Association for 34 years. The organization, founded in 1849, is now known as Jewish Family Services. *Courtesy of Beth Ahabah Museum & Archives.*

Greenville, South Carolina Featured in New Book on Jewish Business

Doing Business in America: A Jewish History, an essay collection edited by Hasia R. Diner, explores how American Jews conducted business and how Judaism influenced their business practices. An essay written by Diane Vecchio on “Max Moses Heller: Patron Saint of Greenville's Renaissance” examines how an Austrian Jew who fled Hitler's Europe drew on his Judaism to transform the textile business in Greenville, South Carolina, and later, while serving as mayor, the city itself.

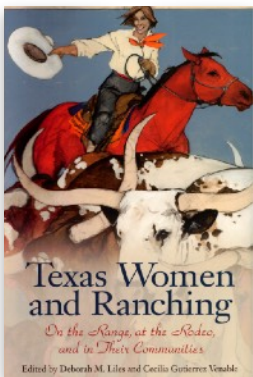
New Endowed Professorship in Jewish Studies Announced in Hampton Roads



Historian and archeologist Richard Freund has been named inaugural holder of the Bertram and Gladys Aaron Endowed Professorship in Jewish Studies at Christopher Newport University in Newport News, Virginia. He will work to expand the University's Judaic Studies offerings, engage the larger Jewish community, and promote “a vibrant and active intellectual and Jewish religious and social life” on campus.

Former head of the Judaic Studies Center at the University of Hartford and a noted explorer, Freund has led exhibitions to discover an escape tunnel used during the Holocaust (chronicled on the PBS program *Nova*) and to locate the burial site of Matilda Olkin, a Lithuanian Jewish poet executed by Nazi collaborators. He is known for involving students in every aspect of his research and explorations.

Tale of the Jewish Cowgirl



A new anthology, *Texas Women and Ranching*, includes a chapter about a Jewish cowgirl born in Fort Worth. Frances Elaine Rosenthal Kallison (1908-2004) was a horsewoman and historian whose father was a founding member of Beth-El Congregation. Kallison grew up riding the draft horses that pulled his furniture wagons in downtown Fort Worth. She married into a San Antonio ranching family and co-founded a ladies' precision riding team that raised money for children's health care. She wrote articles about palominos and

a probing essay analyzing Jewish acculturation in frontier Texas. As regional president of the National Council of Jewish Women, she lobbied to end the state poll tax. She is the only Jewish woman in the National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame.

The chapter about Kallison, subtitled “Historian at Home in the Saddle,” was written by Ahavath Sholom's archivist Hollace Weiner. Published by Texas A&M University Press, *Texas Women and Ranching* is available at amazon.com.

CSJC Prepares to Host Professors

The Center for Southern Jewish Culture has been busy preparing for its Summer Institute for College and University Professors, funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and entitled “Privilege and Prejudice: Jewish History in the American South.” To be held at the College of Charleston from May 26 to June 7, the program is directed by Center director Shari Rabin, associate director Dale Rosengarten, and Michael R. Cohen, chair of Jewish studies at Tulane University. The 25 summer scholars in attendance will learn how to integrate southern Jewish history into their college-level teaching, especially through place-based pedagogies.

This semester the Center has hosted two Charleston Research Fellows, Lucas Wilson (Florida Atlantic University) and Melissa Klapper (Rowan University), and sponsored a public lecture by Pamela Nadell (American University) on her new book, *America's Jewish Women: A History from Colonial Times to the Present Day*. On April 9, as part of a college-wide series on “Global Foodways,” it presented an on-stage conversation on African American, Jewish, and southern cuisines featuring famed food writers Marcie Cohen Ferris and Michael Twitty, co-sponsored by the Avery Research Center for African American History and Culture.



SJHS NEWSLETTER

PO Box 71601, Marietta, GA 30007-1601

www.jewishsouth.org

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit.Org
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 80
Jackson, MS



Become an SJHS Member

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!