# ERAMBLER &

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTHERN JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FALL 2019 VOLUME 23, NUMBER 4

## SJHS in Charlottesville: Get Ready for a Wide-Ranging Conference

We are gearing up for the SJHS annual conference, to be held in Charlottesville on October 25-27. As you probably know by now, the theme this year is "Jews, Race, and Public Memory." There is plenty to explore within this timely and important topic, given today's controversies over public memorials in the South and beyond, the rise of antisemitism and racism in the national conversation, and increasingly contested views about the past. But even with this special focus, the conference will range broadly in geographical reach, subject matter, and the different kinds of experiences conference goers will enjoy.

Experiences: It's not often that the SJHS gets to offer a Jewish-oriented tour of one of America's essential heritage sites, so we are excited to visit Monticello on Friday morning with Marc Leepson, who "wrote the book" on the Jewish connection to Jefferson's famous home. Our Friday afternoon in Charlottesville will not only take in more than a century of Jewish history, it will encompass the

hotly contested Confederate statues of Lee and Jackson and the impact of the 2017 "Unite the Right" rally on the Jewish community. Saturday evening's Helen Stern Cultural Encounter will feature a musical performance embracing Yiddish, Hebrew, and African American traditions by the remarkable African American operatic singer Anthony Mordechai Tzvi Russell.





Top: Monticello in 1887, when it was owned by Jefferson Monroe Levy. *Library of Congress*. Left: Nicole Hemmer. Right: Marc Leepson.

Topics: Our Friday evening keynote address by Nicole Hemmer and Sunday morning panel focusing on antisemitism and the law will enable conference goers to hear nationally known experts on the recent rise of the alt-right. In between, we will learn about and discuss the Civil War and the Holocaust; Jews in southern politics; heritage tourism, pageants, monuments, and historic sites with links to southern Jewry; efforts to incorporate the Jewish experience into the southern narrative; southern Jewish identity; and more.

Jewish geography: From Baltimore's early 20th century Yiddish newspaper to art and architecture in 1920s southeast Texas, the program will traverse the South. Places we will "visit" include Richmond and Charlottesville; Savannah and Atlanta; Birmingham, Alabama; and sites in the Carolinas, Florida, Mississippi, and Louisiana.

Even our panel sessions will range from traditional papers to round table

discussions, with formats that will offer plenty of chances to listen to and engage in stimulating conversation. Take a look at the program on page 3 to learn more about the conference. And then use the info on page 8 to register. We look forward to seeing you in Charlottesville!

## SJHS Conference Hotel Info: Third Option Added

Two conference hotels were reserved at special rates for October 24–27, the English Inn and the Hampton Inn. As this issue goes to press, these hotels are nearly booked, though some rooms might become available. We recently reserved an additional block of 20 rooms at the Country Inn and Suites. Conference buses will pick up from all three hotels and conference materials will be available at each site.

- **English Inn**: Two miles from the SJHS conference site. To book at the special rate (\$109 to \$119 plus tax), call the hotel at 434-971-9900. Group code: Southern Jewish Historical Society.
- **Hampton Inn of Charlottesville**: Three miles from the conference site. 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.
- **Country Inn and Suites at Radisson**: Located between the other two hotels. For reservations, call the hotel at 434-293-4600 and book under the name Southern Jewish Historical Society. The conference rate is \$209 plus tax.

Cut-off date to receive the conference rate is September 24. Time is running out so book your hotel today!



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## President's Message By Phyllis Leffler



I have now been president of the Southern Jewish Historical Society for a little less than a year. It has been a year of learning for me, even though I've been a member of this excellent organization for over 20 years. I have had wonderful collaborations with other board members and some meaningful exchanges with members. I feel honored to be in this position.

I have learned many things, but two I want to share. First, I have learned that we are on the radar screen now of many, many organizations that look to us for guidance and support. We are seen as central to scholarship on the Jewish South. Our journal, *Southern Jewish History*, is an esteemed publication that

represents the very best people working in the field. It is recognized as a model of excellence, with the highest of standards required for publication. Our grants program that encourages preservation of records, new scholarship, and public history presentations is increasingly well known. It attracts the attention of archivists at major museums, small synagogues, and historical societies; established scholars both young and old; even filmmakers. This year alone we had \$90,000 worth of requests from 21 applicants. Through this program, we encourage a focus on southern Jewish history and we support valuable work.

Second, I have learned that we are still not well enough known. As I've planned for the upcoming conference in Charlottesville, I have discovered how many people—even southern Jews interested in history—have never heard that we exist. They don't know about our journal, our conferences, our *Rambler* newsletter. They don't know about our grants, or our prizes for excellent scholarship.

What this means to me is that we *must* do more to fulfill our mission. We *must* launch a more robust membership drive so that we can promote our work more fully. We *must* launch a fundraising drive

to better support our grants program and to develop the resources to sustain our journal well into the future. Our grants committee has seen so many worthy proposals that we do not have the funds to support. As for the journal, we want some day to endow it so that we know we can continue to cover the modest costs of publication. We will ask our members to support us in these endeavors.

At our business meeting in Charlottesville this October 27 (Sunday morning), we will tell you more about our plans going forward. I hope you will join us for that important discussion.

Meanwhile, I encourage you to be in touch with me if you have ideas, suggestions, or questions.



The SJHS annual conference offers a chance for scholars to share their work and exchange ideas with academics and non-academics alike. From the Natchez conference, 2016.

## SJHS 2019: A Good Opportunity to Visit Richmond



Courtesy of Beth Ahabah Museum & Archives.

An invitation from Beth Ahabah:

Are you going to the conference in Charlottesville? Plan to visit Richmond either before or after the conference! We're only a little over an hour away.

At the Beth Ahabah Museum & Archives, located in a row house just east of historic Congregation Beth Ahabah, you can learn about the oldest Jewish community in Virginia from its roots in 1789 to the vibrant Jewish community flourishing in Richmond today. You can also view the beautiful 1904 Beth Ahabah sanctuary.

The museum is open Sunday—Thursday, 10am—3pm, at 1109 West Franklin Street in Richmond's Fan District. There is convenient parking in the deck opposite the synagogue, just west of the museum. For more information, visit bethahabah.org/bama or contact us at 804.353.2668, bama@bethahabah.org.

## Jews, Race, and Public Memory

#### Southern Jewish Historical Society 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference Charlottesville, Virginia, October 25–27, 2019

Marni Davis, Program Chair

#### Friday, October 25

#### 8 am: Buses leave conference hotels for Monticello

## 8:30–11:30 am: Tour Monticello with focus on its African American and Jewish histories

#### 12-1:30 pm: Lunch at Hillel Foundation

- Official welcome to the conference
  - Phyllis Leffler, SJHS President & Local Arrangements Chair
  - Marni Davis, Program Committee Chair
- ▶ Speaker: Marc Leepson, author of Saving Monticello: The Levy Family's Epic Quest to Rescue the House that Jefferson Built

#### 2-4:30 pm: Activities in downtown Charlottesville

- Exhibit on Jewish Charlottesville, Albemarle Charlottesville Historical Society
- Walking tour of Charlottesville Jewish history with Phyllis Leffler

#### 4:30 pm: Buses return to hotels

#### 5:45 pm: Buses pick up for evening program

#### 6:15-7:15 pm: Shabbat service, Congregation Beth Israel

#### 7:15 pm: Keynote address

Nicole Hemmer, "The Alt-Right in Charlottesville: How an Online Movement Became a Real-World Threat"

#### 8-9:30 pm: Dinner and after-dinner program, Beth Israel

- ▶ John Mason responds to Nicole Hemmer
- Conversation with audience

#### Saturday, October 26

Sessions to be held at University of Virginia, Nau Hall (South Lawn)

## 9-10:30 am: "Pageants and Monuments: Southern Jews and Public Memorialization"

- Samantha Baskind, "Moses Jacob Ezekiel: Virginia's Jewish, Confederate Sculptor of Charlottesville's Thomas Jefferson Statue"
- ▶ David Weinfeld, "The American Jewish Tricentennial and the Civil War Centennial in Richmond: Commemoration in a Southern Jewish Community"
- Melissa Young, "Constructing History: Birmingham, Jews, and Public Memory, 1871–1920"

#### 10:45 am-12:15 pm: Concurrent sessions

## "History and Memory: Commemorating and Memorializing Leo Frank"

- Anna Tucker (Museum of the Southern Jewish Experience)
- ▶ Catherine Lewis (Kennesaw State University)
- Jeremy Katz (Cuba Family Archives for Southern Jewish History)

#### "Towards a Pedagogy of Southern Jewish History: Reflections on 'Privilege and Prejudice: Jewish History in the American South'"

- ▶ Shari Rabin (Oberlin College)
- ▶ Dale Rosengarten (College of Charleston)
- Michael Cohen (Tulane University)

#### 12:30-1:30 pm: Lunch at Nau Hall

#### 1:30-3 pm: "Jews, Race, and Southern Politics"

- ▶ Matthew Brittingham, "For Our City of Baltimore and the South': The Baltimore Amerikaner in Context"
- Adam Jortner, "Sheftall's Shadow: Jeffersonians, Liberty, and Slavery in Savannah"
- ▶ Jacob Morrow-Spitzer, "Jewish Mayors in Reconstruction-Era Louisiana and Mississippi"

#### 3:15-4:45 pm: Concurrent sessions

#### "Forging Jewish Identity in a Southern Landscape"

- Laura Cochrane, "Combating Anti-Semitism and Defining Jewishness through Art and Architecture in 1920s Southeast Texas"
- ▶ Catherine Eskin, "Exclusion and Inclusion: Jews Occupying Public Space in Mid-20th Century Lakeland, Florida"
- Amy Milligan, "The Jewish Zealots of Tobacco Land': The Circuit-Riding Rabbi Project of North Carolina, 1950–1980"

#### "In Search of an Authentic Past: Jews, the South, and Heritage Tourism"

- ▶ Ruth Ellen Gruber, "From Dark Tourism to Tourist Attractions: Thoughts on Parallels between Jewish Heritage Tourism in Europe and African American Heritage Tourism in the U.S."
- Neva J. Spect and Carrie Streeter, "A Mansion on the Parkway: Mrs. Moses H. Cone and the Politics of Public History"

## 5:15-6:15 pm: Helen M. Stern Cultural Encounter with reception

- Anthony Mordechai Tzvi Russell, African American/Jewish musical performance
- Q&A led by Josh Parshall (Goldring/Woldenberg Institute of Southern Jewish Life)

#### 6:30 pm: Dinner on your own

#### Sunday, October 27

Sessions to be held at University of Virginia, Nau Hall (South Lawn)

#### 8:30-9:30 am: SJHS annual membership meeting

#### 9:30-9:45 am: SJHS awards presentation

## 10 am-12:30 pm: "Antisemitism and the Law in Charlottesville and Beyond"

- Amy Spitalnick, "Pursuing Justice: Using Law to Confront Antisemitism"
- Dahlia Lithwick and Risa Goluboff in conversation, "Nazi Marchers and the U.S. Constitution: Did the Framers Imagine Charlottesville?"

## The University of Virginia and the Jewish Chautauqua Society:

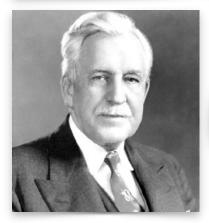
## A Curious Connection By Phyllis K. Leffler

The University of Virginia, established in 1825, was Thomas Jefferson's vision. He sought to create a training ground for the future leaders of the nascent republican experiment. In the university's founding documents, the very first goal was "To form the statesmen, legislators and judges, on whom public prosperity and individual happiness are so much to depend." This was a university for southern gentlemen at its inception.

Jefferson also insisted that the university be a fully secular institution, not tied to any religious establishment. That idea was radical for its day. Along with the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom, Jefferson demonstrated that he valued and was open to non-Christian religious thought. We know that Jews greatly admired him for these values. Yet, very few Jewish students attended the university well into the 20th century.

That is why a 1916 speech by Charles P. Maphis, director of U.Va's Extension Service, is so curious. It was addressed to the Jewish Chautauqua Society at the group's annual meeting in New Orleans. The purpose of the Extension Service was to make instruction and resources available more broadly across the state of Virginia. It appears that Maphis's major goal in addressing the Society was to raise money from Jewish donors, but in the process we learn a great deal about the place of Jews in the early-20th-century university.







Top: Two Jewish alums sought to raise funds to help restore the University of Virginia Rotunda after it burned in 1895. *University of Virginia Library*. Left: Charles Maphis. *University of Virginia Library*. Right: The Jewish Chautauqua Society formed in 1893 to provide Jewish educational programs and lectures to Jewish and non-Jewish audiences. It was affiliated with the popular Chautauqua system of adult education based in Chautauqua, New York.

We learn, for example, that in 1914 and 1915, three Jewish lecturers taught in U.Va. summer school sessions. Rabbi Abram Simon, of Washington Hebrew Congregation, lectured on Jewish education in the Biblical Era, the Middle Ages, and modern times. Rabbi Harry Ettelson of Hartford, Connecticut spoke on literary interpretations of the Psalms, and Dr. Max Margolis, a Semitic scholar, gave a series of lectures on the

Hebrew Scriptures. Who would have thought that there would be this level of interest in early- $20^{\text{th}}$ -century Virginia in the teachings of rabbis and Jewish scholars? Maphis provides an answer that flatters his audience: "Modern Jewish education is synonymous with moral and religious education and therein it lays emphasis where Jefferson would have had it placed."

After a recounting of all that he had learned about Jews and Jewish education through the ages, Maphis turns to his real goal: encouraging the group to provide money for extension programs and the university curriculum. First, he posits the Jewish Chautauqua Society as a cultural agency similar to U.Va.'s Extension Service, focused on the "dissemination of . . . knowledge." Then, he lauds Jefferson for his educational vision and particularly for his commitment to religious freedom. Finally, he makes his pitch. He notes that two decades earlier, two Jewish alumni, Leo Levi and Felix Levy, had attempted to raise funds from fellow Jews to help restore the Rotunda and other university buildings that had burned in a devastating 1895 fire. The two alums had hoped to enlist Jacob Schiff, Oscar Straus, and other prominent American Jews in their cause, and their pitch relied heavily on the Jefferson angle. It didn't work (Maphis blames the depression of the 1890s), but Maphis apparently thought another effort to use the Jefferson connection to raise funds from Jewish donors would be worthwhile.

Maphis asks that the members create a \$50 annual prize for student essays on Jewish subjects. He asks that they consider establishing a Chair of Semitics for teaching Hebrew and Jewish History and Literature. And he cites a number of notable recent Jewish alumni who can make this happen.

continued on page 5...

## Congregation Schaarai Zedek Celebrates its 125th Anniversary By Carl L. Zielonka

On the same weekend that the SJHS convenes in Charlottesville, Tampa's Congregation Schaarai Zedek will be commemorating its 125th anniversary. A special Shabbat and Gala, featuring a new video of the Temple's history, will highlight the celebration.

Schaarai Zedek was founded by 15 families in 1894 as the first synagogue on Florida's west coast. Originally adhering to Orthodox tradition, it hired its first rabbi in 1896. The Ladies Temple Guild was founded in 1896, and the first synagogue was constructed in 1899.

By the year 1902 the congregation had grown to 37 families; however, internal conflict erupted between the Orthodox members and those who wanted a more liberal form of Judaism. After the Reform members gained control, a lengthy lawsuit followed, resulting in a split and the founding of Tampa's second synagogue, Rodeph Sholom. In 1903 Schaarai Zedek became a member of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

The first half of the 20th century was a time of struggle for Schaarai Zedek. The Great Depression took its toll on both of Tampa's synagogues during the 1930s. At the beginning of World War II the congregation's membership was a mere 65 families. But the influx of servicemen and women serving at





Top left: Schaarai Zedek occupied this building from 1924 to 1957. Bottom left: Charter members of the Ladies Temple Guild. Above: Minute book page from founding meeting, 1894. Courtesy of Schaarai Zedek.

nearby Air Force bases during the war brought many Jews to Tampa. Some of them met their spouses and stayed. World War II marked the beginning of a

the beginning of a growth spurt for the congregation that never really stopped. By 1950 its membership had increased to 200 families, and today Schaarai Zedek has grown to be the largest synagogue in Florida outside the lower east coast. More than 1,200 families now call it their religious home. In addition to a religious school of 350, its preschool is one of the nation's largest with more than 400 students.

Schaarai Zedek's members have been leaders in business, politics, and the organized Jewish community. One of its founders, Herman Glogowsky, served four terms as mayor of Tampa, and congregant Sandy Freedman became the city's first woman mayor in 1986. The Temple embraces its long tradition of community involvement that continues in the 21st century, as it goes from strength to strength.

Carl L. Zielonka, DDS, retired from the practice of dentistry in Tampa in 2017. A past president of Schaarai Zedek, he now serves as historian and archivist and as a docent at the Tampa Bay History Center. His father, David L. Zielonka, was rabbi of Schaarai Zedek for 47 years.

## The University of Virginia and the Jewish Chautauqua Society: A Curious Connection

#### continued from page 4...

This is a fascinating document for a number of reasons. The University of Virginia was a bastion of white supremacist values and teachings. It was a southern institution to its core. Yet, in a world where Jews were increasingly defined as non-white, Maphis appears to be validating the place of Jews at the university. Indeed, one odd element of the speech is that Maphis starts off with a gratuitous joke about blacks and later tells another off-subject racist joke. Perhaps he saw this as an inclusive gesture, signaling that he considered the audience to share his racial status.

We learn also of a kind of Jewish network of university alumni and Maphis seeks to connect the dots between them. About the Jewish Chautauqua Society and its Virginia connections, we learn less. Was this group in New Orleans mostly made up of Virginia Jews? Why would Maphis choose them for this talk that was so focused on the University of Virginia? Maphis's speech complicates our assumptions about the place of Jews in southern universities. There is much here to ponder and explore.

If you'd like to read the full text of Maphis's talk, you can find it here: archive.org/details/jewishchautauqua00maph/page/n3.

## - Society News -

## Southern Jewish History Releases New Volume

The editors of *Southern Jewish History*, the annual peer-reviewed journal of the Southern Jewish Historical Society, proudly announce publication of Volume 22 (2019).

The new issue contains scholarship by a variety of authors representing the diversity and vitality of the field of southern Jewish history; many are first-time contributors to the journal. Jacob Morrow-Spitzer examines Reconstruction-era politics in Louisiana through the lens of Edouard Weil, the Jewish mayor of Alexandria. Charles L. Chavis Jr. offers a case study in rabbinical activism with the story of Edward

Israel of Baltimore's Congregation Har Sinai.

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Rabbi Jacob Rothschild of the Temple in Atlanta, seen here as a U.S. Army chaplain (far right), is one of the rabbis profiled in this issue of *SJH. Library of Congress*.

Edward S. Shapiro traces the activities of four Jewish military chaplains during and after World War II. Three survived the conflict, and their wartime experience deeply influenced their rabbinical careers. Their lives and their actions exemplified ecumenicism and the growing acceptance of Judaism as one of the nation's three core religions. Kyle Stanton delves into the heated politics of wartime Zionism in his examination of Rabbi Hyman Judah Schachtel of Congregation Beth Israel in Houston. He explores the far-reaching national consequences of that congregation's schism over support for a Jewish state; although much has been written about the Basic Principles

resolution, Stanton's article places it in national context.

Miyuki Kita presents a powerful primary document: the diary of Lynn Goldsmith. As a Brandeis University student, Goldsmith traveled to South Carolina in 1965 to work in the civil rights struggle and kept a meticulous personal record of her experiences there. As always, the volume also includes book, exhibit, and website reviews.

Members of the SJHS receive copies of 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. For mailing outside the U.S. add \$20 to the price. Individual articles from previous journals can be purchased in electronic format for \$7 per article. In addition, the full contents of the first fourteen volumes (1998–2011) are free to download on the society's website. For downloads and online ordering, go to jewishsouth.org or e-mail journal@jewishsouth.org.

Southern Jewish History is always seeking scholarly articles to consider for publication. To discuss a potential article relating to the southern Jewish experience, please contact the editor, Mark K. Bauman, at MarkKBauman@aol.com or by phone at 678-428-3622.

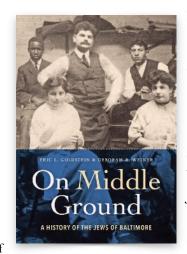
## On Middle Ground Receives SJHS Book Prize

The Honors and Awards Committee is pleased to announce the winner of the Southern Jewish Historical Society's quadrennial book prize for 2019: *On Middle Ground: A History of the Jews of Baltimore*, written by Eric L. Goldstein and Deborah R. Weiner and published by Johns Hopkins University Press.

A comprehensive, thoroughly researched, exceptionally well written, and engagingly illustrated volume, *On Middle Ground* makes the case that Baltimore is unique among large cities in that it is neither fully northern nor fully southern, and that the Jews of Baltimore have shared in this "middle" position.

One committee member commented that the authors "have achieved a synoptic history free of

boosterism and special pleading, a book that consistently asks the question of how Baltimore differed from comparable communities while still reflecting the broad social and economic



patterns with which scholars of American Jewish history are familiar. By noting how southern the ambience of Baltimore was (in its race relations, in its reverence for tradition and the conservative values of a community located in a slave state), On Middle Ground reveals how life there also differed from the communities further south, . . . a certain neither-here-nor-there-ambiguity that marks the history of the city and its Jews."

Another committee member wrote that *On Middle Ground* "can stand alone as a history of an important American city as well as a history of Jews who settled there." That the authors also manage to accomplish this feat in a manner that has the potential for appeal to a wide readership makes *On Middle Ground* a volume truly deserving of the SJHS book prize.

—Submitted by Adam Meyer, Honors and Awards Committee chair, on behalf of committee members Dana Herman, Ron Bayor, and Steve Whitfield.

## **NEWS AND NOTES**



#### Tulane Jewish Studies Department Receives Major Gift

Tulane University has received a generous gift from Stuart and Suzanne Grant of Wilmington, Delaware, to establish the Stuart and Suzanne Grant Center for the American Jewish Experience. It is among the largest gifts to the Tulane School of Liberal Arts and the largest ever to the Jewish Studies department. The gift will double the Jewish Studies faculty, fund a new endowed chair that will allow the department to recruit a senior scholar, and provide operating support.

"With this visionary gift, Tulane is poised to become a national leader in the study of the American Jewish experience, with a particular, unique, and interdisciplinary focus on the history of Jews in the Gulf South and the region more generally," Tulane President Mike Fitts said. Jewish Studies Chair Michael Cohen, Sizeler Professor of Jewish Studies, said the gift will enable the department to pursue an innovative approach that will range "across disciplinary and subfield boundaries, emphasizing the global orientation of the American Jewish experience."

School of Liberal Arts Dean Brian Edwards cited the importance of creating the Center "at a moment when the need to understand American Jewish history has never been more vital." He also noted the "great interest in Jewish studies" among Tulane students. "In the last few years, nearly one in four undergraduates enrolled in a Jewish Studies course. This gift allows us to provide students with the opportunity to study with professors whose research is setting the direction of the field." The Grants' son Sam graduated from Tulane in May 2019 and is now a lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps.



#### JHSSC Heads to the Upstate for Fall Meeting

The Jewish Historical Society of South Carolina invites you to attend its fall meeting in the Upstate, November 9-10, 2019, focusing on the history and leadership of Spartanburg and the surrounding Jewish community.

The planning committee, headed by Myrtle Beach attorney and Spartanburg native Joe Wachter, has been hard at work designing the program. Spartanburg's Jewish history will take center stage on Saturday, with a talk and panel discussion, a site visit to the old synagogue, and dinner at Temple B'nai Israel with entertainment by Spartanburg's own "Cap and Collar," comprised of Rabbi Yossi Liebowitz and Pastor Paul Harmon. On Sunday we will begin with the annual Open Board Meeting and election of officers before commemorating the 81st anniversary of Kristallnacht, the Nazis' "Night of Broken Glass," with a tribute to the Teszler family, refugees from Budapest, Hungry, who developed double-knit textile manufacturing in Spartanburg.



Please visit jhssc.org for more information, hotel and registration links, and a full schedule of events.

Dedication ceremony for Temple B'nai Israel's new building, Spartanburg, 1964. Courtesy of JHSSC.

## ISJL Adds Florida to Encyclopedia of Southern Jewish Communities

Southeast Florida may be the nation's third largest Jewish population center, but it's northwest Florida that boasts the state's oldest congregation, in Pensacola. You can now explore their histories and more at isjl.org/florida-encyclopedia.html. The Goldring/Woldenberg Institute of Southern Jewish Life (ISJL) is pleased to announce the completion of the Florida section of the online *Encyclopedia of Southern Jewish Communities*.



Florida joins the encyclopedia as the  $13^{\rm th}$  (and final) state in the collection. The 24 new entries bring the total count to nearly 300 local histories.

Dr. Josh Parshall, director of history at the ISJL, served as editor and lead writer on the Florida section, with contributions from summer interns Mimi Brown, Jacob Morrow-Spitzer, Margaret Weinberg Norman, and Rose Steptoe. Most Florida entries feature images from the MOSAIC Project Photographic Collection, housed at the State Library and Archives of Florida.



The Encyclopedia showcases Florida's diverse Jewish communities. Left: Jacksonville bris, 1914. University of Florida Libraries. Right: A new JCC in Naples, 1975. Jewish Museum of Florida.



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## SJHS 2019 Conference Registration Info

"Jews, Race, and Public Memory"

Southern Jewish Historical Society 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference Charlottesville, Virginia, October 25–27, 2019



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

Conference fee is \$180 for members. To join or renew your membership online, go to: jewishsouth.org/store/annual-membership. Conference fee for non-members is \$230.

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

People who register late may not be able to attend the Monticello tour. If you prefer to pay by check, please make it out to Southern Jewish Historical Society and mail to: Dr. David Meola, SJHS Treasurer, Department of History, University of South Alabama, 5991 USA Drive N, #344, Mobile, AL 36688. NB: You still must register online for the conference.

**Food:** All food will be kosher style. Please indicate if you require a vegan or vegetarian option. If you have serious food allergies, email dameola@southalabama.edu.

Hotel must be booked separately. See page 1 for info.

**Questions?** Contact Phyllis Leffler at pleffler@virginia.edu.