

Texas Jewish Historical Society™

Preserving Jewish Heritage in Texas
Est. 1980



May 2018 News Magazine

Officers and Board Installed at Annual Gathering in Ft. Worth



Top photo: TJHS officers and Board for 2018-2019. Middle photo: Attendance at the TJHS Annual Gathering April 13-15, 2018, in Fort Worth, Texas. Bottom photo: 2018-2019 TJHS Officers—Sally Drayer, Historian/Archivist; Joyce Wormser, Recording Secretary; Nelson Chafetz, Second Vice-President; Davie Lou Solka, President; Susan Lewis, First Vice-President; Amy Milstein, Corresponding Secretary; Jane Manaster, Third Vice-President; Ben Rosenberg, Treasurer. (Not pictured - Vickie Vogel, Parliamentarian)



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Message from the President

by Davie Lou Solka

Thank you for the confidence you have placed in me to serve another term as President of the Texas Jewish Historical Society. I know that the next year will be as full of activities, good meetings, and as fun as 2017-18 was.



We had a great Board Meeting and Annual Gathering in Fort Worth. Susan Lewis and her very capable committee, Deidre Cizon, Jack Gerrick, Morty Herman, Bob Lewis, Gary Whitfield, and Hollace Weiner, treated us like royalty the whole weekend. The program on our “new” Texas history immigrants from South Africa and the Former Soviet Union was very enlightening and opened our eyes to the fact that this is also Texas Jewish

history—even though so many of us were there helping these “new” immigrants settle into the United States and Texas. It does not seem that long ago; however as we listen to these Americans speak of their experiences, we realize that our grandchildren view

that time of the 1970s, 1980s, and even the 1990s as ancient history. Welcome to all of our new friends—we all are looking forward to learning more about their stories and hope that we will receive some to include in our News Magazine.

Friday night of the weekend found us at the beautiful Beth-El Congregation building for dinner and services. Former Congressman Martin Frost (a new TJHS Board

member) spoke to us about some of his experiences in Washington, and Rabbi Brian Zimmerman greeted us and led us in a beautiful Shabbat Eve service. Saturday morning we heard from Boris and Joan Gremont from South Africa, now living in Dallas, and Sophia and Alex Nason from the former Soviet Union, now living in Fort Worth, as they told us of their experiences in relocating to Texas. After the panel discussion and lunch, we divided into groups either going to the famous Fort Worth Stockyards to see our own Bob Lewis, aka Tumbleweed Smith’s, Star in the Trail of Fame at the Stockyard; taking a tour of the beautiful Beth-El building and visiting the exhibit “Our Jewish Soldiers in the Great War;” visiting Emanuel Hebrew Rest pioneer cemetery with “ghosts” showing up; or visiting Fort Worth’s museums. This was followed by a Board Meeting at the hotel later in the afternoon.

Saturday night found us back at Temple Beth-El with a Klezmer Havdalah Service and Barbeque dinner. The Klezmer band, Klezzoup!, entertained us after dinner with a variety of musical selections narrated by Cantor Monica O’Desky.

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The Texas Jewish Historical Society May 2018 Quarterly News Magazine

The Texas Jewish Historical Society News Magazine is published four times annually. Stories about Texas Jewish history, oral histories, and requests for assistance with research are welcome, as are photographs and historical documents. Please provide color photocopies or scans at 300 dpi or greater in gif, tif, or jpg format, and send electronically to Editor Jack Solka at jack@solka.net or by mail to 3808 Woodbrook Circle, Austin, TX 78759, 512-527-3799. Be sure to include your name and contact information.

Editor Jack Solka
Layout/Design Editor Alexa Kirk

Note: The Texas Jewish Historical Society is unable to guarantee the safe receipt and/or return of documents and photographs. It is strongly recommended that you provide color photocopies of both color and black & white documents. We welcome your comments and suggestions.

Visit us on the web at www.txjhs.org.



The News Magazine of the Texas Jewish Historical Society (USPS) is published four times a year by the Texas Jewish Historical Society, P. O. Box 10193, Austin, Texas 78766-0193, Travis County. Periodical postage paid at Houston, Texas. Postmaster, send address changes to the Texas Jewish Historical Society, P. O. Box 10193, Austin, Texas 78766-0193. www.txjhs.org

UT Jews in the Civil Rights Era

by Dr. Suzanne Seriff

A call has gone out for memories of Texas Jewish Longhorns in the 1960s and '70s.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of a pivotal moment on college campuses and civil rights activism around the nation and across the globe. Now, a new course from the Schusterman Center for Jewish Studies at The University of Texas at Austin is asking: What role did Longhorn Jews play in the social changes of the 1960s and early '70s—both on campus and beyond?

Revolution was in the air on college campuses in the 1960s and early '70s – UT included. Segregation protests, student sit-ins, free love, anti-war campaigns, feminism, flower power, counter-culture were the (dis)order of the day.

Were UT Jews allies or activists? Greeks or geeks? Feminists or Princesses? Dr. Suzanne Seriff, a folklorist and member of the Schusterman faculty, lifelong Texan and a member of the Texas Jewish Historical Society wants to tap your knowledge and experience of UT's Jewish students in the Age of Aquarius.

She's teaching a new course, "UT Jews in the Civil Rights Era" in Fall 2018 through the Schusterman Center. But it's not all book learning and library research. She'll draw on her background as a museum curator and folklorist to train students to conduct original oral historical research, document original artifacts, and comb the archives to fill in the picture of Jewish life on campus during these pivotal decades.

"Jews have had an impact on Tex-



Photo by Alan Pogue.

as since its inception and now we have the opportunity to collect oral histories from people who changed Texas during this critical time," Seriff said. "It's a unique and timely opportunity."

Students will use UT's rich archival resources, such as the Texas Jewish Historical Society Collection and the African American History Resources at the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History. Each student will conduct an oral history with a former UT student, faculty or staff member, either in person or by Skype. And at the end of the semester, they'll work together to create a pop-up exhibit featuring the results—and you're all invited!

Were you a student or faculty

member at UT during the '60s or early '70s? Did you belong to a Jewish sorority or fraternity?

Were there places on campus or in town that you felt you would not be welcome as a Jew? Do you remember when the restaurants and movie theatres and barber shops on the Drag were segregated? What about the student housing, Longhorn band, dining halls and athletics teams? What about the newly opened "whites only" faculty club? Were Jews allowed? Were you in the crowd when Martin Luther King, Jr. came to speak on campus? What about the anti-war protests? Did you ever participate in a sit-in or strike or picket line? Did you pick up a copy of the local underground newspaper known as *The Rag*? Or contribute an article? Did you ever take a class with radical economics professor, Harry Cleaver?

Do you know what SDS stands for, and/or were you a member? What was your stance on the Chuck-wagon controversy—whether to admit non-UT patrons or not?

Even before the students start collecting in the fall, Seriff has gathered some great stories and memories of Texas Jews on campus whose names you may recognize during this era:

There was Richard "Kinky" Friedman who writes about the time he tried to integrate his fraternity on campus, and the moment he resigned in protest when they refused to even allow his black friend entrance into the frat house. His activist activities won him a coveted place, along with Jerry

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Annual Gathering in Fort Worth



GONE 2 TEXAS: Two Waves of Jewish Immigration—was moderated by Mark A. Goldberg, Director Jewish Studies, from the University of Houston. Panelists were Boris and Joan Gremont from South Africa and Alex and Sophia Nason from the Former Soviet Union.



Marian Perl, Judy Cassorla, and Marty Berman in front of Past President's Wall in the Hall of Remembrance at Beth-El Congregation in Fort Worth.



Former U. S. Congressman Martin Frost and Bob Lewis (aka Tumbleweed Smith) at the Ft. Worth Stockyards.



TJHS Members visited the Fort Worth Stockyards and saw the Star in the Texas Trail of Fame honoring Bob Lewis (aka Tumbleweed Smith), TJHS Board Member.



Former U. S. Congressman Martin Frost spoke to the TJHS members Friday night.

— Notes from the — Board Meeting

At the April 2018 Board Meeting in Fort Worth, the following occurred:

- Speaker's Bureau Chair, Jan Hart, reported that several speakers had been sent to Houston and Dallas.
- Deidre Cizon, Travelling Exhibit Chair, reported that the Exhibit has been seen in Dallas, Houston, Fort Worth, and was at the Yom Hashoah Exhibit at LaTourneau University in Longview.
- Membership Chair, Marc Wormser, reported that we now have 529 paid members, with thirty-seven new members since April, 2017.

Cousins meet at TJHS Meeting—Jack and Davie Lou Ettelman Solka, Fran Laves Kreinder and Lynell Moses Bond.



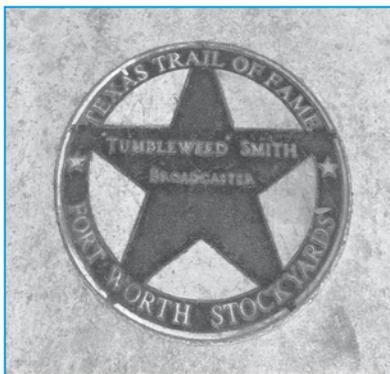
Cantor Monica O'Desky doused the Havdalah candle.



Ruthe Berman, a tour guide from the congregation, Bernie Berman, Joe McClellan, Marty Berman, and Phyllis Berman (back to the camera) in the Chapel at Beth-El Congregation in Fort Worth.



Entertainment on Saturday night was provided by Klezmer Band "Klezzoup!" and Cantor Monica O'Desky.



Texas Trail of Fame—Star in honor of Bob Lewis (aka Tumbleweed Smith).



TJHS members danced the Horah to the music of the "Klezzoup" Klezmer Band.

Archive Your History

by Vickie Vogel

In January, TJHS enjoyed a weekend meeting in Gonzales to learn its Jewish history. At the Jewish cemetery in town, we met “ghosts” in period dress (as we often do in the towns we visit) who told us about their lives, while standing by their graves. I volunteered to be a ghost, and meeting chair, Barbara Rosenberg, gave me several names to choose from. I chose the one I could find the most information about. Her name was Fannie Orinovsky (1894-1961).

At first, I found very little. findagrave.com gave me her birth and death dates, who she married and when, named two of her children and told me who her parents were. Google added nothing to these bare bones. When I research an article for our News Magazine, I always check the index of our two publications, *Deep in the Heart*¹ as well as *Lone Stars*

of *David*². Sure enough, there was a quote from Ida Orinovsky (Fannie’s daughter) in *Deep in the Heart*, from a newspaper article Ida had written for the *Gonzales Inquirer* about growing up in Gonzales. Checking the footnote, I learned that the article was in our archives!

It is easy to access articles in the TJHS Collection at the Briscoe Center for American History at the University of Texas at Austin. I soon learned more than enough about Fannie to portray her ghost.

Do you have a newspaper article about a family member? Biographical notes? Labeled photographs? Passports, birth certificates, confirmation certificates, marriage licenses or other documents? They belong in our archives. Yes, you want them to stay in the family and be handed down through the generations, but is that

the best way to protect them? Should they be in acid-free containers in climate-controlled spaces in perpetuity? Or will a descendent not value them and throw them away, or keep them in moldy boxes in a dusty attic?

Imagine a trip with your grandchildren to the Briscoe, and showing them their family history, so valuable it is kept in a university archive. Impressive and memorable!

You can submit your family documents to our Historian/Archivist, Sally Drayer, or you can mail them to P. O. Box 10193, Austin, Tx 78766-0193. For large boxes, talk to Sally.

Endnotes

- ¹ Ruthe Winegarten and Cathy Schechter, *Deep in the Heart*, (Eakin Press, 1990).
- ² Hollace Ava Weiner and Kenneth D. Roseman, *Lone Stars of David*, (Brandeis University Press, 2007). 

Civil Rights, continued from page 3

Jeff Walker and Janis Joplin, in the surveillance files of former UT police chief, Allen Hamilton. <https://www.texasobserver.org/2343-the-spies-of-texas-newfound-files-detail-how-ut-austin-police-tracked-the-lives-of-sixties-dissidents>.

There was Frieda Warden, the co-founder and producer (in 1986) of the radical weekly radio series, WINGS: Women’s International News Gathering Service, who remembers attending what she thinks was the first publicly announced Women’s Liberation meeting in Austin in 1969.

There was constitutional law professor Fred Cohen—nick-named “Fred the Red”—who defended many of the SDS students who were arrested or put on disci-

plinary action for anti-war protests on campus, and SDS member Carole Neiman, recalled how there was a kind of flow between the counter culture on campus and off-campus. “The school was sort of the focus and provided a supportive community for artists and musicians to hang around and be around a sort of intellectually stimulating environment without necessarily being enrolled in college and getting degrees and stuff. (Personal communication as reported in Marti G. Harvey, *The Evolution of the Rag*.)

If you have stories to tell from your time at UT—whether or not you considered yourself part of the counter culture or activist movements—contact Dr. Seriff at sseriff@austin.utexas.edu or 512- 619-8837. 

Save the Date

July 14-15, 2018

Board Meeting in Rockdale/Round Rock, Texas

October 5-7, 2018

Board Meeting in Abilene, Texas

January 25-27, 2019

Board Meeting in Brownsville, Texas

April, 2019

40th Annual Gathering in Houston

LeTourneau University

Shoah (Holocaust) Remembrance Exhibit

LeTourneau University in Longview, Texas, was host in April, 2018, to a unique event. Sponsored by the University Humanities and Social Sciences Department, Temple Emanu-el, the Mindy and Natalie Rabicoff Family, and the United States Holocaust Museum, the presentation, along with excellent exhibits, gave East Texas a new awareness of Shoah, the Hebrew term for “destruction,” specifically referring to the Holocaust.

Assistant Professor David Ostendorff said that this began as a

worldwide for over 25 years. She has led many tours to Israel, and has traveled the world seeking and telling life stories of Jewish families. She recently lived in Poland, and was a volunteer for Auschwitz-Birkenau, and worked in the Preservation Department to care for the belongings of former prisoners.

In addition to Dr. Burns’ sessions, the daughter of Dachau survivor, Alexandra Goode of Russian descent, told

her family’s stories with videos and photographs.

The collection of exhibits from the Texas Jewish Historical Society highlighted key aspects of Jewish history both from the U.S. and specifically

here in Texas. Exhibits that were featured included “Passages,” “Sabbath,” “Entrance to America,” “Matchmaker,” and “Home.”

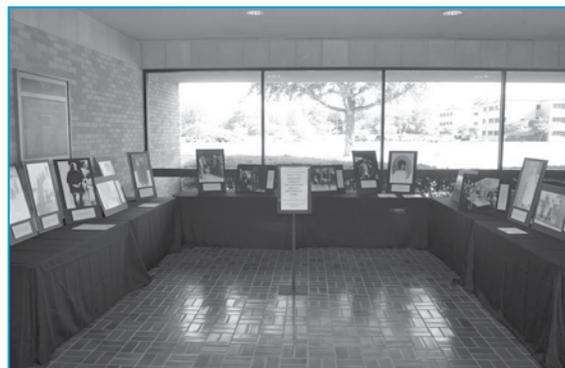
Several hundred peo-

ple from many areas of Texas attended this presentation. Several schools

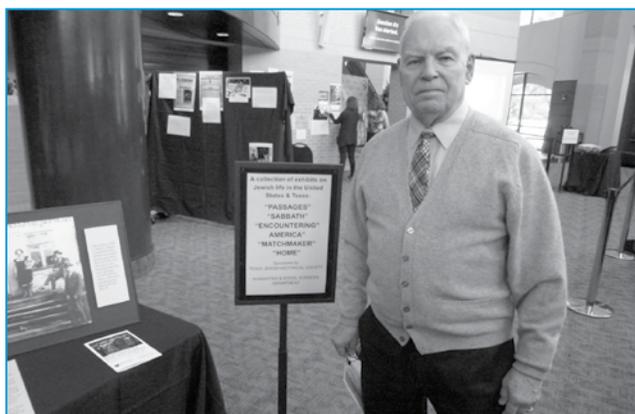


The crowd looking at the TJHS exhibit.

brought students to impress on them what happened at this terrible time in American history and allow them to know what unspeakable events happened that must never be repeated. 



TJHS Exhibit at LeTourneau University for Yom Hashoah.



Joe McClellan with TJHS exhibit sign.

class project, but because of the interest the students had in the subject, it became a major event for LeTourneau University.

The main speaker was Dr. Carrie Burns, an advocate for Jewish-Christian relations in the U.S., Israel, and

Does TJHS Have Your Current Email Address?

Is your email address current? Has it changed since the 2015 directory was printed? Have you changed email providers? If so, please send Marc Wormser an email at c2aggie@gmail.com so that he can update your information in the database. To reduce postage cost



and printing delays, we are going to be electronically sending as much mail as possible, so don't be left out or behind—send your current information today!

Please put “email change” in the subject line and with your name in the text of your message, send it today! Thank you. 

Thank You, Sugihara

by Eleanor Skelton, Staff Writer, *Beaumont Examiner*

Reprinted with permission from the *Beaumont Examiner*, February 8, 2018

Michael Wolf was born a month before World War II ended into a Jewish family that narrowly escaped Berlin just a few years before.

“I’ve never told this story before”, he said, “[I’ve] never been asked.” He said his mother told parts of the story and he shared some of it with friends, but not publicly.

Temple Emanuel (Beaumont) hosted a film screening in October, 2017, of *Persona Non Grata*, about the life of Chiune Sugihara, a Japanese diplomat posted in Lithuania, known for issuing visas to Jewish refugees against orders. Sugihara issued over 2,000 transit visas in July and August, 1940, according to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Wolf’s grandparents, Erich and Henny Liebmann, along with his uncle, Herbert, were some of the refugees given visas, Wolf explained. Some 40,000 people are estimated to have descended from the people Sugihara helped, NBC News reported in February, 2016.

The Liebmanns left Berlin in September, 1940, by way of the Soviet Union and Shanghai, then ending up in Ecuador, where they stayed until the war was over because the United States would not allow the ship’s passengers to enter, Wolf said. Their escape was enabled by Sugihara continuing to issue visas at a Berlin train station after he and his family had



Standing: Michael Wolf and Cynthia Wolf. Seated: Madeleine Lieberman Wolf. Photo taken September 2010.

to leave Lithuania, according to the Wolf family.

Michael Wolf’s mother, Madeleine, was smuggled out of Berlin in March, 1940, just a few months prior, he explained. Madeleine was only fourteen years old when her father secured passage on a kindertransport train from Berlin to Italy, where she boarded a ship bound for the United States with the help of the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, Wolf said, explaining that she was sponsored by her mother’s sister, Edith, and her husband, Walter Marcus, who were already living in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

“She saw the handwriting on the wall,” Wolf said, explaining that Edith had already immigrated to the

United States in the late 1930s.

For a year and a half before their escape, the family hid in the home of two non-Jewish families in the same neighborhood in Berlin.

“My mother, unfortunately, had to go into hiding with my grandfather and my grandmother and her brother,” Wolf said. “They separated. The men went to one home and women went to another home.”

He explained they could see each other in a nearby park, but the family had to be nonchalant to avoid being found out. “My mother would meet my grandfather and they would sit across

the park from each other so they could see one another, but couldn’t go near each other...before they escaped,” he said. “That’s how they survived that year being all separated.”

“But then finally, my grandfather arranged for her escape, and she left as a little girl by herself with nothing.”

While living with her aunt and uncle in the United States, his mother met his father, while he was stationed in Williamsport, Pennsylvania. Wolf’s father was originally from South Texas, near Harlingen and Brownsville.

“They got married when she turned eighteen,” he said. “Her uncle

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Sugihara continued from page 8

wouldn't let her get married until she graduated high school, [but once] she turned eighteen, [she] got married to my dad and he brought her back to Texas." Wolf said he was three months old when the young family came back to Texas.

Wolf explained he never met his uncle since Herbert unfortunately passed away in South America while they were waiting to immigrate to the United States. Herbert would have been twenty-three, Wolf said.

Wolf is now a financial professional at Wolf Bunt & Associates and chairman of the Beaumont A&M Club's Classroom Teacher Awards, as well as a past president of Temple Emanuel.

And it's all thanks to Sugihara.



Madeleine Wolf (in the middle of three girls in front) with her family in Germany. Brother, Herbert, is on the left, back row.

"Sugihara had to choose between his career and doing the right thing," said Cynthia Wolf, Michael's wife. Sugihara's diplomatic career was

basically finished after he defied orders during the war, but he's now considered a hero in Japan, according to NBC News.

"The most important thing that [Madeleine] could do was to defy Hitler and have a family," Cynthia added.

"She survived to bring forth future generations."

Wolf's mother passed away in 2012, but he said the experience never left her. "It was a haunting thing... her entire life," he said, explaining that she still feared people coming to harm her or reading her mail when

she was in her eighties and sought counseling at that time.

Wolf said that watching the film about Sugihara "filled in some of the gaps" for him.

TJHS Editor's Note - Madeleine Liebermann Wolf mentioned in this article is the mother of Michael Wolf of Beaumont, Paulette Wolf Levine of Houston and Richard Wolf of Houston.



Chiune Sugihara, the Japan Diplomat Who Saved 6,000 Jews During Holocaust.

-Mazel Tov- to the following TJHS Members

Mitzi Chafetz, on the opening of her new business, Austin Natural Funerals in Austin, TX. Mitzi has graciously led many families in the Austin area through the difficult time of preparing a funeral for a loved one for many years. Her husband, **Nelson Chafetz**, TJHS 2nd Vice President, is working with Mitzi in this new endeavor.

Lynna Kay Shuffield, who has been awarded the 2018 "Burrey Parker Research Fellowship" from the Texas Collection Library at Baylor University. She will be researching the two Jewish cemeteries in Waco and hopes to obtain a Historic Texas Cemetery Designation for both cemeteries from the Texas Historical Commission. 🇺🇸

TJHS on Facebook

Did you know that TJHS has a Facebook page? Like us at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Texas-Jewish-Historical-Society/187629054741368>.



Please Note:

If you are sending a check to the Texas Jewish Historical Society, please indicate the purpose of the check—dues, gift, contribution, etc.



The TJHS is Accepting Nominations for Two Outstanding Recognition Awards for the Preservation of Texas Jewish History

Texas Jewish Historical Society (TJHS), founded in 1980, is seeking nominations for Outstanding Recognition Awards in two areas: (1) Significant Historic Site Preservation (awarded first to Leon and Mimi Toubin for the restoration of the Orthodox Synagogue originally in Brenham and moved to Austin, in order to continue as a sacred place for Jewish worship services) and (2) Extraordinary Historic Project (awarded first to Rabbi Jimmy Kessler for the 1980 founding of the Texas Jewish Historical Society, which continues to educate, to preserve stories, and to archive Texas Jewish History).

TJHS now seeks your help to identify and honor those individuals who have made a significant and lasting impact on the preservation of Texas Jewish History. Only one award per year can be given in each category; but it is not mandated to be given yearly, only when an outstanding accomplishment merits the award. Recognitions as determined by TJHS Award Committee will be presented at TJHS Spring Annual Gathering. Applications must be received by July 15, 2018 and mailed to Barbara Rosenberg, 219 Lombardy Drive, Sugar Land, TX 77478

Application Form

Date of Submission: _____

Name and Contact Information of Nominee(s): _____

Name and Contact Information of Person(s) Recommending Nominee(s) for Consideration: _____

Category of nomination:

Significant Historic Preservation

Major Historic Project

In the packet that you will return with this sheet as your cover page, please include the following:

- Complete description of the accomplishment
- Reasons that you are submitting this nomination and how you became aware of this accomplishment
- Pictures and other documentation
- Impact of this accomplishment and how it has and will continue to make a difference now and in the future on the ongoing story of the Jews of Texas
- Short bio of nominee(s)

Thank you for helping us recognize deserving individuals!

*Send applications to: Barbara Rosenberg, 219 Lombardy Drive, Sugar Land, Texas 77478
For more information, contact Barbara Rosenberg at 281-494-2268 or bcr219@aol.com or
Cynthia Wolf at 409-899-4499 or cwolf@gt.rr.com.*

From Our Archives

This column is based on information in the TJHS Collection, housed at the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History at the University of Texas campus in Austin. It has been supplemented with online research. If you have corrections or additions, please submit them in writing to the TJHS editor at editor@txjhs.org. We want our archives to be as complete as possible.

Fannie Orinovsky

by Vickie Vogel

Fannie Kerner was born in Drohobycz, Austria on April 22, 1894.¹ She married Alexander Orinovsky in Bexar County in 1923. Alexander was born in 1888 in Poland, which was part of Russia at the time. He was a tailor. His parents were Labe or Leibel (d. 1910) and Pearl (1862-1938) Orinovsky.² Pearl was Labe's niece and became his wife. They had another son, Morris (1903-1965), who shortened his name to Orrin. Morris was born in San Antonio and owned a newsstand downtown. Pearl, Labe, and Morris are buried in Agudas Achim Cemetery in San Antonio.

Fannie and Alexander had three children. Louis was born in 1925 in Los Angeles. He died in Tulsa and was buried in Henrietta, Oklahoma where he and his wife Doris lived.

Ida was born in 1927 in San Antonio. The family moved to Gonzales and opened a clothing store. Ida graduated Gonzales High School and the University of Texas. She married Morris Zallin and they moved to Boston. She had three daughters.

Harold was born in 1929. He became Zvi Ben Alexander and moved to Israel.

Ida wrote an article for the *Gonzales Inquirer*, describing life growing up in Gonzales. She described a night parade of the Ku Klux Klan in the



The Orinovsky family were lodgers in the "Spooner House" when they first arrived in Gonzales. Photo courtesy of Katlyn Guerra, Gonzales Public Library.

1920s that she was told about. Thousands came to town from surrounding areas to see the robed members marching or on horseback, burning a fiery cross. Another Jewish family in town, the Michelsons, had a cafe and hired five boys to sell sandwiches on the street to the crowd.

The Orinovsky family rented rooms from Miss Tom Spooner at 207 St. Francis when they first came to town.³ Miss Tom babysat the children. She taught Ida how to make up beds properly, in the "American manner," and gave her piano lessons in her parlor. Miss Tom told Ida to never look into the barber shop when you pass, because you might see a gentleman without his collar on!

Fannie instilled a knowledge of Jewish heritage in her children, and other Jewish children in town.

At first there was a Sunday School in Dr. Louis Stahl's home, taught by his eldest daughter Celia, but it faded out. Fannie set one up in the back of their store. Ida was the teacher at age 12. With her brothers, cousins and any other little kids whose parents could be cajoled, shamed, or persuaded, they had a class of ages five to eleven. They told Bible stories, celebrated all the Jewish holidays, and Fannie baked cookies or cake to end the class.

The parents' involvement in Sunday School progressed to weekly Friday night services, taking turns in each other's homes. Alexander recited kaddish and the others took turns conducting the brief service. High Holy Day services were held in the stately marble-walled room of the Texas History Museum. They put a podium in front of the mural depicting Texas history and added a Torah, candles and flowers. A student rabbi or a UT professor would lead services. Choir consisted of Laurile Michelson, Pearl Tudzin, Maureen Cohen, and Ida. Few, if any, of the boys had a bar mitzvah. There was a burial society and a B'nai B'rith Lodge for towns in the area.

According to Ida, there was a certain amount of factionalism among five Jewish families in Gonzales. It was the Forgotston⁴-Michelson fami-

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The Texas Jewish Historical Society Grant Application

The mission of the Texas Jewish Historical Society is to expand and enhance the knowledge and understanding of the Jewish presence in Texas and the history of Jews from their first arrival in the State to the present.

We solicit applications for research projects that are in this spirit.
Deadlines for submission are March 1, June 1, September 1, and December 1.

Application Form

The Texas Jewish Historical Society will consider applications from individuals and non-profit organizations in any written or visual media. Attach additional sheets as necessary.

Contact Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ Cell: (_____) _____

Email: _____

Title and Description of project.

Briefly outline personal and professional background information that support this application.

What is the anticipated budget for the project? Are you seeking additional support from elsewhere?

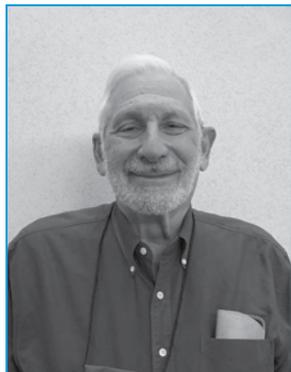
Please detail the timeline of your project.

Completed project must acknowledge TJHS support. A copy or account of the completed project should be submitted to the Society's archive at the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History at the University of Texas at Austin.

Send applications to: TJHS Grant Committee: P.O. Box 10193, Austin TX 78766-0193, or email to grantchair@txjhs.org.

Meet Your Board

Morton “Marty” Berman was born in Houston and attended Reagan High School. He graduated from the University of Houston, and worked



for The Coastal Corporation in Corpus Christi and Houston for 37 ½ years. He was the Manager of Corporate Accounting, in charge of Budget Accounts, and document of accounting systems. Since his retirement, he enjoys travelling with his wife, Ruthe, also a TJHS board member.

Judy Cassorla, from Austin, grew up in New York, and attended Queens and Hunter College. She married in 1963, and worked in market



research. She lived in South Carolina to be near family, before moving to Austin to also be with family.

John P. Campbell now lives in Austin. He received a B.A. from Tulane University and a M.P.A. from the LBJ



School at UT in Austin. From 1984-2004, he lived in Washington, DC, and was on the staff of Texas Select Committee on Higher Education and a member of the staff of the National Academy of Sciences. In 2005 he became the Executive Director of the Inter-Academy Council in Amsterdam, Netherlands. He retired from this position in 2014.

Brad Greenblum was born and raised in Laredo. He now lives in Austin, but in the 1980s, was living



in Tokyo, Japan. He attended the University of Texas, Austin, and earned a BBA in finance/real estate. He then attended SMU for law school. He is married to Jennifer Frankfurt Greenblum and they have three children, Aly (Brandon) Phillips, Coco, and Gavin. His special interests are running classic cars and developing real estate projects. He is the co-founder of the Texas Jewish Community Legacy Project.

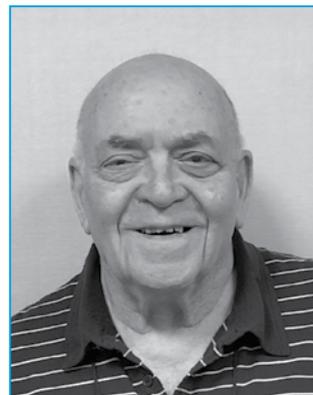
Carolyn (Kay) Krause now lives in Dallas, but raised her three children in Brownsville. She participated in many



different areas in organizations and was one of three women to help open

a Planned Parenthood Center. She is a paralegal and has worked in courtrooms during trials and picking juries. She is married to Dan Krause, also a TJHS Board Member.

Dan Krause is from Dallas and is a retired CPA. He received a BBA from Tulane University in 1956 and served in the US Army 1956-1958.



He is the archivist at Temple Shalom in Dallas. Dan is married to Kay Krause, who is also a TJHS Board Member.

Marlyn Lippman now lives in Dallas, but has connections to Fayette County. She is the Treasurer of Temple Israel in Schulenberg and a Board Member of the Jewish Cemetery in



Hallettsville. Marilyn is employed with Ericsson, Inc. in Plano, as a Business Operations Manager. In her spare time, she enjoys hot yoga, hiking, and gardening—especially mowing lawns!

Former Congressman Martin Frost served the 24th District of Texas (Dallas-Fort Worth) from 1979-2005.

continued on page 14



During that time he served eight years in the House Democratic Leadership, four years as Chairman of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee

(1995-1999), and four years as chair of the House Democratic Caucus (1999-2003). He was a member of the House Rules Committee and the House Budget Committee. Since leaving Congress, he served four years as chair of the National Endowment for Democracy (2013-2017) and is currently Vice President of the Former Members of Congress Association. He is an adjunct professor in the George Washington University Graduate School of Political Management. He holds journalism and history degrees from the University of Missouri and a law degree from Georgetown University Law Center. He lives in Alexandria, Virginia, and is a member of Temple Beth-El there.

Sheldon I. Lippman grew up in Schulenburg and attended the University of Texas, Austin. He earned a Bachelor of Journalism and a MA in Radio-TV-Film. From 1975-2017, he lived and worked in Washington, D.C., the last twenty-five



years with the World Bank in Communications. He served on the staff of Keep Texas Beautiful from 1985-

1987. Sheldon now lives in Austin and one of his hobbies is photography.



lies versus the Stahl-Joseph-Gurin-sky-Efron clans. The only times they all joined together was during the High Holy Days. Meantime, they were cordial, and not competitive in trade, but the two groups went their own ways.

When Ida was 17 and had saved up money for college in the fall, Fannie told her she needed that money to buy merchandise for the store. Christmas was their busiest time of the year. Ida walked down the street depressed, and Mr. Clarence Traeger, the pharmacist, saw her and said, “What’s wrong,

were friends, too. Harold and Lou worked at the Michelsons’ Cafe, and Ida was cashier there the summer before leaving for college.

Alexander died in Gonzales in 1945 and Fannie followed him in 1961.

Endnotes

- ¹ Unless otherwise noted, all information is from Box 3A171, Texas Jewish Historical Society Collection, Dolph Briscoe Center for American History, University of Texas at Austin, file Gonzales, *Gonzales Inquirer*.
- ² <https://www.finda.grave.com/>



Tombstone of Fannie and Alexander Orinovsky, Gonzales Jewish Cemetery. Photo by Vickie Vogel

Miss Ida?” and she told him. He said, “How much do you need?” She said, “A hundred dollars.” He marched her into his office at the back of the pharmacy, opened his big roll-top desk, and wrote her a check for a hundred dollars.

Corinne Remschel (1910-1992)⁵ owned the building where the Orinovskys had their store. The rent was set in 1936 and, realizing the Orinovskys were struggling, she never increased it. The Michelsons

memorial /81112652/fannie-orinovsky.

- ³ <http://gonzales.bar-z.com/location/t-h-spooner-house>.
- ⁴ Mr. Forgotson had a grocery store, and used to stand out front, polishing his apples and oranges.
- ⁵ <https://old.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GSln=Remschel&GSfn=Corinne&GSbyrel=all&GSdyrel=all&GSst=46&GScty=2608&GSctry=4&G-Sob=n&GRid=81587165&df=all&>



Honor or Memorialize a Friend or a Loved One With a Donation to the TJHS Endowment Fund

When you honor or memorialize a friend or a loved one with a donation to the Texas Jewish Historical Society's Endowment Fund, you help support important programs. Send the honoree's full name, type of honor (memorial, congratulations, or occasion—birthday, anniversary, award, new child or grandchild, etc.) and your name, along with a check in the amount of your choice, to

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Your support of the Texas Jewish Historical Society's programs is greatly appreciated and will be recognized in an issue of the quarterly News Magazine. Thank you.

The Texas Jewish Historical Society gratefully acknowledges your gift to its Endowment Fund in the amount of

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Your gift will further the efforts to record, preserve, and disseminate historic information about Texas Jewish culture.

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Please notify TJHS when your address has changed or if you may be temporarily away from home when the News Magazine is to be delivered. These issues are returned to us at a postage due rate of \$1.52 (at printing date) per magazine. These amounts add up—it's your money we are trying to save! 

We need Your Stories!

We are earnestly looking for stories with ties to Texas Jewish history! Any kind of story about your family history or your Temple's history can fill the pages of our News Magazine. Everyone has a story to tell, long or short. To submit your story, or if you need help writing your story, contact Jack Solka at jack@solka.net or 512-527-3799.

Request for Information

Do you have information about Jewish families from LaSalle County, including Artesia Wells, Cotulla, Dilley, Encinal, Los Angeles, Los Cuernos, Woodward? If so, please contact Brush County Museum, Attention: Mark English, 201 @ Stewart, Cotulla, TX 78041, 830-879-2429.

Jonnie Pizer is looking for historical information on four of his great-grandfather's brothers that settled in Waxcohe, Texas in the early 1900s. They were involved in merchandising, and their names were Peter Pizer, Philip Pizer, Sam Pizer, and Sol Pizer. Contact Johnnie Pizer in Denver, CO at

303-759-5484.

Looking for information on Carrie Marcus Neiman, 1883-1953, of Louisville; Hillsboro; Atlanta, Georgia; and Dallas. She was the co-founder and CEO of Neiman-Marcus in Dallas. Please contact Jerri Marcus Smith at 214-953-3120 or jerriesmith@mac.com. 

In Memoriam

We apologize for reversing the photos of Dr. Howard Lackman and David M. Leff in our last issue (February, 2018). Following are the correct photos with the correct obituaries.



Dr. Howard Lackman, past TJHS board member, died on November 26, 2017, in Arlington, TX. He is survived by his wife, Annette Robinson Lackman; children, Samara (Andy)

and Jed (Leslie); three grandchildren; and sister, Elaine.

David M. Leff, past TJHS board member, Houston, died on



November 9, 2017, in Houston. He is survived by his children, Dr. Stanley (Marion) Leff, Sharan (Jack Schlossberg)

Zwick, and Tina (Yomtov) MenashePur; six grandchildren; and twelve great-grandchildren.

Dahlia Edelstein Gabert, TJHS



member, died on April 8, 2018, in Houston. She is survived by her daughters, Nori and Dary, and two grandchildren.

Idarene Haas Glick, TJHS member,



died on January 13, 2018, in Dallas. She is survived by her daughters, Olga (Robert) Strauss; Carol (Robert) Hirsh, six

grandchildren, six great-grandchildren and one great-great grandson.

**May their memories
be a blessing.**

President's Message, continued from page 2

Sunday morning was our Annual Gathering meeting with the election of the Officers for 2018-2019 and Board of Trustees for 2018-2020.

We will continue with our committee chairs assuming responsibility of their committees. Items concerning that particular committee will be addressed by the chair and committee, rather than individuals doing committee work. The chairs have been very faithful sending their reports to me, our Recording Secretary, Joyce Wormser, and their respective Vice Presidents. Hopefully, all reports have been filed in their Procedure Books so their work will not be lost or repeated.

Our board members are a wonderful group of individuals, and I know they take their responsibility as a board member very seriously to do the best job they can.

I again challenged each of them to add two new members this year. Our organization can only continue to grow if we all work toward increasing our membership and involving as many people as we can. You do not have to be a member of the board to serve on a committee and I encourage you to let me know if you are interested in any area of the organization. We have wonderful projects and many committees could use your help. Don't hesitate to contact me to discuss the opportunities available to you.

Our next board meeting will be in Rockdale/Round Rock July 14-15. Be sure to take note of future meetings in "Save the Date" column in this issue and join us in Abilene, Brownsville, and Houston. See you in Rockdale/Round Rock.

Davie Lou Solka 

Guess This Member



Time to put your thinking hat on and guess who this young lady is. She has been an active member of TJHS for many years, and with her husband, travels many miles to attend meetings.

Email your guess to Jack Solka at editor@txjhs.org and jack@solka.net any time beginning Monday, May 21, 2018. Entries received before that date will not be considered. Previous winners and family members are not eligible to participate. Good luck! 🇺🇸

Contributions

The following donations have been received by the Texas Jewish Historical Society:

In Memory of

Willie Wolf Bauer

Acknowledgement sent to Honorable Ms. Elyse Lanier Alvin Winegarten, father of Debra Winegarten

From

Rev. & Mrs. Tyrone Bauer

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You Can Help Recruit New Members

by Jane Manaster

TJHS Third Vice President

As one of the founding members of the Texas Jewish Historical Society, I realize that it's time to recruit younger members; we can draw on the children and grandchildren of the current membership.

A suggestion on how to remedy this concern is to offer memberships as Wedding, Bar Mitzvah or Bat Mitzvah gifts. The memberships could be for one to three years depending on how generous the gift is. This would be a good introduction to an organization that we find so interesting.

The deadline for the August 2018 TJHS News Magazine is Monday, July 9.

Corrections

The following are corrections to the Frapart Family article published in the November 2017 issue of the TJHS News Magazine: Samuel Lewis and Elizabeth Lewis were Johanna Lewis great grandparents. Lewis Levy and Mary Alice were Elizabeth's parents. The article in the November 2017 of the News Magazine stated that Lewis A. Levy, and his wife, Mary Alice,...had 20 children.. Records found by the author of the article stated that "Nine named children and eleven more".... Dr. Levy was Lewis Levy's brother. Sam was a commercial artist not an architectural artist.

Welcome New Members!

Directory Changes

Geraldine Cohen

4411 Spicewood Springs Rd., #2202
Austin, TX 78759

Edward & Shana (Bauman) Koushel

P. O. Box 376
Dallas, TX 75230
281-576-6405
shanabauman@yahoo.com

Hanna (Goldman) Lambert

7033 Northaven Rd.
Dallas, TX 75230
972-953-8075
hanna@lambertgroup.org

Stanley Rosenblat

11230 Cliffwood Dr.
Houston, TX 77036
713-857-4837

Gary & Debbie (Lambert) Smith

11216 Northland Circle
Dallas, TX 75230
214-363-3644
Cell: 469-371-5537
dsmith71@swbell.net

Gary & Shelley (Stoup) Solka

4212 Lost Ridge
Austin, TX 78731
512-415-5095
gary@solka.net

Michael & Liz (Anes) Solka

6209 Cat Mountain Cove
Austin, TX 78731
512-343-2349
Michael Cell: 512-771-3598
Liz Cell: 512-560-5566
michael@solka.net

Steven & Andrea (Breitbarth) Solka

219 Meadow Run
Coppell, TX 75019
Steven Cell: 214-632-2549
Andrea Cell: 972-839-1916
andrea@solka.net

Dorothy (Laves) Wolchansky

15935 Knoll Trail Drive, #2403
Dallas, TX 775248
Home: 214-350-7437
Cell: 214-213-2662
Fax: 214-350-7408
dlocations@aol.com

Harris & Joy (Kaplan) Jacobs

2929 Buffalo Speedway, #1904
Houston, TX 77098-1710

Dan & Doyleene Markman

18630 Barbuda
Nassau Bay, TX 77058
281-333-2201

Devora G. Rubin

devora.rubin@att.net

Mervin & Jean (Peterman) Rosenbaum

4141 S. Braeswood Blvd., #226
Houston, TX 77025
713-660-5095
jrosenbaum1417@gmail.com

Rabbi Jack & Toby (Chotiner) Segal

2929 Wesleyan #1205
Houston, TX 77027

If you have any changes in your information, please contact

**Marc Wormser, 1601 S. Riviera Ct., Pearland, TX 77581
832-288-3494, c2aggie@gmail.com**

Your Help Needed

The American Jewish Archives is looking for photos that show the American flag on the bimah. They would like to acquire a collection of late 19th and early 20th century (before 1920) photos. Some of these photos may actually go back to the 1870s.

Please check to see if you have photos showing the American flag on the bimah or the flag bunting inside the sanctuary in your old confirmation photos, anniversary or wedding photos, Fourth of July photos, etc.

You may submit a hard copy or a high-quality scan of the photo to Dr.



Gary Zola, executive director at the Jacob Rader Marcus Center for the American Jewish Archives. For more information, please contact him at gpszola@huc.edu.

The Cemetery Committee thanks all who have helped with the recording of Jewish burials/cremations in Texas. But we still need help from many of you who live outside the major cities. If you learn of a Jewish death in Texas in your locale, please send that information to Rusty Milstein, hrmilstein@prodigy.net. Your help is appreciated. 



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TJHS Traveling Exhibit

The Texas Jewish Historical Society has compiled two museum quality photo exhibits, with explanations depicting early Jewish life and contributions.



Both exhibits highlight the lives of Jews in Texas since the early part of the century.

Each exhibit is comprised of approximately thirty-six photographs that can either be self-standing with an easel back or hung on a wall. There is no charge for the exhibits and they will be shipped prepaid

freight via UPS in waterproof boxes to your location. There will be the expense of prepaid freight back to the shipper via UPS ground.

The exhibits have been displayed

in various locations in Texas and other parts of the United States, including Rhode Island and California. They are an excellent program for schools, congregations, and other organizations. To schedule the exhibits, please contact Deidra Cizon at dbcizon@swbell.net or 214-361-7179.

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