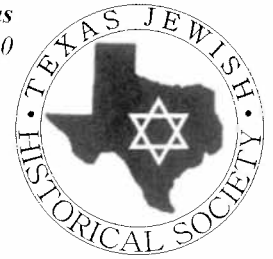


# Texas Jewish Historical Society

Preserving Jewish Heritage in Texas  
Est. 1980



February, 2009

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## Join us for the 30th Annual Gathering in College Station, Texas April 24-26, 2009!



We will meet at the *College Station Hilton Hotel and Conference Center* for a fun weekend of sight-seeing, guest speakers, and schmoozing with your friends from the Society. Fill out and return the registration form on page 13 by April 3. We'll see you there!

## Special Pull-Out Section!

Featuring the first TJHS newsletter ever published! This is a wonderful keepsake to put with your old family and society records. Turn to page 9!

# Message from the President

by Sally Drayer

I would like to thank Vickie and David Vogel for hosting our winter board meeting in La Grange on the weekend of January 9th. For me personally, it was a trip down memory lane. I haven't been in the La Grange/Schulenburg area since traveling from Alice, Texas, where I grew up in south Texas, to College Station when my older brother Herschel was attending Texas A&M University. We would always stop at Frank's Restaurant to eat and the food is still just as delicious now as it was then. The area has such a relaxed atmosphere, and we had a wonderful time exploring it.



2008 is now a memory as we move into 2009. Our Annual Gathering will be on the weekend of April 24th in College Station and I hope to see many of you there. The Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum will open an exhibition

entitled "Forgotten Gateway: Coming to America Through Galveston Island" on February 20. Members of the society have been interviewed for the exhibit and I hope that many of you are able to go to Austin to see it. Jan Hart will give her presentation "Hannah the Immigrant" on March 14, at 2:00 PM.

Work has begun on our long range project: updating the Cemetery Book. If you can assist in locating Jewish burial sites in Texas, please contact either Charles Hart or Kay Goldman.

Our new membership directory will be published in the spring. Please let Leon Brachman know of any changes in your contact information. If you can assist in editing, please contact chairperson Mitzi Milstein. We hope to have the dates and places of our summer and fall board meetings by the time of printing. If you would like to host a meeting, please let me know.

Thank you again to the hosts of our 2008 meetings. We traveled to Beaumont, Waco, San Angelo, and El Paso. Our fall meeting in El Paso was a first because it was a joint meeting with the New Mexico Jewish Historical Society. We hope to meet with them again.

As you can see, we are once again busy with meetings and seeing Texas in 2009. If you haven't attended one of our quarterly meetings, you are missing out on a fun weekend of learning, exploring our roots, eating and visiting with interesting people, and seeing friends. Come, learn, and enjoy!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sally Drayer".

President, 2008-2009

## The Texas Jewish Historical Society February 2009 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 scan at 300 dpi or greater, in .gif, .tif, or .jpg format and send electronically to Assistant Editor Davie Lou Solka at [davielou@solka.net](mailto:davielou@solka.net) or mail to 3808 Woodbrook Circle, Austin, TX 78759, 512-527-3799. Be sure to include your name and contact information.

**Publisher-Editor** Alexa Kirk  
**Assistant Editor** Davie Lou Solka  
**Photographer** Marvin Rich

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



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# The Legacy of Henry Abraham Wertheimer

## The Dedication of Wertheimer Middle School, October 27, 2008

The following remarks are from the presentation at the dedication of the Wertheimer Middle School, Lamar Consolidated ISD in Richmond, Texas, on October 27, 2008. The remarks are reprinted with permission from the Lamar Consolidated Independent School District.

Henry Abraham Wertheimer was born on May 28, 1928, to Rose and Max Wertheimer. A second generation Houstonian, Wertheimer was raised (in Houston) and graduated from San Jacinto High School in 1944. He attended Rice University, where

Wertheimer served as a member of the Lamar Consolidated Independent School District Board of Trustees from 1969 to 1981, including eight years as President. He strongly believed that education leads to self-supportive citizens. "It is through a quality educational system that we develop our leaders," he said. "A good public education system is what keeps our country running."

Wertheimer went above and beyond the duties and obligations of a board member. If there was a field day, an art fair, a choir performance,

or any student event, he was there. He encouraged faculty to sponsor and promote student activities that would enrich and expand upon classroom instruction. He believed that each child had a talent.

Wertheimer practiced the pronunciation of each gradu-

ating student, for he did not want to make any mistakes on that special day. It was important to him to pronounce their names correctly and to show that he was proud that each had achieved his, or her goal.

Wertheimer helped fund the A.W. Jackson Elementary School breakfast program. He also created an after-school math tutorial for the first and second graders of that school, which he and his volunteers conducted at

Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church. When the days grew cold and the church could not afford to heat the classroom, Wertheimer and his volunteers simply moved the tutorials to his place of business.

While serving as a Board Trustee, the school district expanded with the addition of Huggins Elementary, Ray Elementary, George Junior High and Terry High School. From his study of the demographics, Wertheimer realized that Houstonians would cross the county line into Fort Bend County. In preparation, he advocated purchasing land even if it would not be needed for ten years. In the late 1970s, he was an advocate for technology integration into the educational program.

Wertheimer was awakened many a night with a phone call from a parent with a sick child. He would go to the pharmacy, get the necessary medications and take it to their home. His mission was to always provide medical assistance. If a child was in need of a doctor or a dentist, he would find an agency, an organization, or an individual that could provide financial means to secure the necessary medical attention. More often than not, he paid some or all of the bill.

Wertheimer employed many students in his place of business. If a student came to him seeking employment and he did not have a job to offer, he sought out individuals or businesses that did. Wertheimer also funded all or part of many students' college education.

Henry Wertheimer was actively involved in many county and community organizations. He served as Rosenberg's Mayor from 1986 to 1988. He was also a board member

*continued on page 8*



*Lamar CISD Superintendent Dr. Thomas Randle, Kim Wertheimer, Sharla Wertheimer, wife of the late Henry Wertheimer, Miles Wertheimer, Stephen Wertheimer, Jane Wertheimer Solimani, Lamar CISD Board President Michael Richard and Wertheimer principal Irma Nurre.*

he majored in biology and chemistry. After his graduation from Rice in 1948, he entered pharmacy school at the University of Texas and completed his degree in 1950.

Wertheimer came to Rosenberg in October of 1958, as the pharmacist at the Shaffer Pharmacy. The following year, he purchased the business, which he continued to operate for thirty-one years. He inspired numerous youths who worked for him to seek similar careers.

# Jewish Merchants of La Grange

by L. David and Vickie Vogel

Like other small towns in Texas from the nineteenth to mid-twentieth century, La Grange filled its town square with Jewish merchants. Dry goods, groceries, and clothing predominated, but there were also confectioners, hat makers, saddlers, and others. Stately two-story homes with large live oaks lined the main streets, such as the house Jacob Weil built (1880), which was also Weil Stoves and Tin Ware, and the Alexander home which was standing until some fifty years ago. The Fink Building, the oldest in La Grange, was on the square (1842-1914) and the Lauterstein Building (1954) was at one time the only air-conditioned professional building in South Texas.

Nineteenth century establishments included Gabriel Friedberger Dry Goods, Rosenthal Brothers General Mercantile, Henry Alexander Grocery, Aronsohn & Sass Dry Goods (Samuel Aronsohn died in 1894 and is buried in Hallettsville with a Masonic emblem on the tombstone), Aronsohn's Bargain Department Store, Senftenberg Brothers & Company, M. Schlesinger Dry Goods, S. Stein Fresh Fruits & Confectionery, Abram "Winchester" Alexander—Hatmaker, B. Zander Saddle Shop, A. Alexander General Merchandise, Captain Seelig Alexander Dry Goods & Grocery, Sass-Alexander Dry Goods [Seelig Alexander's daughter, Gertrude (1852-1931) married Pincus Sass], Joe Rosenthal's Bismark Saloon, and Sam Simon General Merchandise.

Candy must have been a hot item in La Grange, as numerous confectioners did business on the square including A. Levin (which also sold fruit), Henry Alexander, Captain Seelig Alexander, and S. Stein.

Seelig (Sam) Alexander was born in Prussia in 1826, and came to the United States in 1849. By 1851, he was in La Grange, later serving as a Captain in the Confederate Army. A local newspaper

quoted Seelig as turning down the opportunity to advertise in the paper because everyone knew him so well there was no need. He died in 1896.

Abram Alexander, a hatmaker, was known as "Winchester" because he made his home in that small community, some ten miles north of La Grange. Abram (1823-1898) was born in Thorn, Prussia. After working as head clerk in a hat factory in New York City, he came to La Grange to pursue commercial interests during the Civil War. His hattery employed as many as one hundred people. A wealthy man, he suffered financial reverses later in life. He was an active Mason and member of the American Legion. His obituary said, "Many men, yea, hundreds of them, have lived and died and been of less use to the world than 'Winchester' Alexander..." He was buried in the Jewish cemetery in La Grange, but later reinterred in the City Cemetery.

Abram Alexander had four sons: Harry, Jake, Victor, and Charles. Charles' obituary outlines his association with the Alexander Grocery Company, where he served first as a traveling salesman, then as manager of the Flatonia branch of the wholesale company, until he became Vice President. Headquartered in La Grange, there were branches in Flatonia, Giddings, and Elgin.

There were various Alexander enterprises located on the square at different times and sites. According to the newspaper, Abram Alexander's store dealt in "general merchandise."

Senftenberg Brothers & Company, with a location in La Grange in 1881, was described in a contemporary newspaper article as "well and widely known in Columbus and Colorado County as a first class dry goods [firm]. They carry a large and well-selected stock of dry goods, dress goods, notions, gents' furnishing goods; everything bought

direct from New York. Latest styles always brought on immediately. The Senftenberg Brothers are deservedly known as the 'popular merchants' because their polite manners and fine goods have made them so." Adolph Senftenberg (1845-1901) is buried in the Hallettsville Jewish Cemetery. There are also "Seftenbergs" buried there and we do not know if one is a misprint or if there were two contemporaneous families with such similar names.

Gabriel Friedberger, owner of a dry goods store, lived diagonally across the street from it on the southwest corner of the square. He was born in Wurtemberg, Germany in 1835. After learning design in Paris at the age of thirteen, he immigrated to America. Unable to find a job, he grew depressed. A man from Philadelphia noticed him weeping, took him under his wing, and set him up as a peddler. Friedberger did not take to peddling and soon found another benefactor who hired him to bind wheat. He saved enough to repay the Philadelphia gentleman (who had paid his hotel bill in New York) and set out on his own with a pack so heavy he had to crawl to get it up a steep hill. Meeting his brother on the road, they went to Florida and met with success in wholesale goods.

Venturing to Texas, the Friedberger brothers found great opportunity with goods bought in New York. They opened stores in Austin and La Grange in 1851, in Bastrop in 1853, and later in Columbus. Friedberger tried wholesaling cotton in Matamoras, and smuggling cotton to the Union from Galveston. Returning to La Grange, he continued in the wholesale business and the cultivation of cotton. During the war, he dealt in horses, but lost three hundred head to thieves. He successfully recovered only a few.

*continued on page 5*

Friedberger married Libbie Diamond in 1863, whose family is credited with building the first house in Galveston. Libbie was descended from English Jews. They had seven children, some of whom settled in European capitals. Friedberger served as treasurer of the La Grange Masonic Lodge No. 4 and also as Alderman of his ward for a number of years.

The 1881 newspaper article said Friedberger's Dry Goods store was "where can be found the finest of dress and fancy goods, gentlemen furnishing goods, etc." When the Jewish cemetery was established in 1868, Friedberger signed as President of the La Grange Hebrew Benevolent Society.

Rosenthal Brothers General Mercantile (1896) and the Rosenthal Law office (1881) were located on the square, the former where Friedberger Dry Goods had been. Isaac Rosenthal, known to all of La Grange as "Papa," was born in Posen, Germany in 1826 and arrived in America in 1848, a time of political unrest in Europe. After a few years in New York, Rosenthal moved to Georgetown and was in the mercantile business there for a short time before relocating to La Grange. He married Estina Rosenfield of Houston and they had eleven children.

"Papa" served as City Alderman for twenty-seven years, from 1880 until his death in 1906. He, too, was a Mason and the first treasurer of the volunteer fire department, serving in that capac-

ity until his death. He had at least seven sons (Max, Morris, Joe, Nathan, Frank, August, and Leon), but it is unclear who participated in the business and who in the law office. Frank was City Secretary in 1902. Nathan does not appear to have participated, since he was in poor health and died three years after his father. He traveled to improve his health, living in San Antonio and Houston. Joe operated the Bismark Saloon next to the Mercantile.

Bernard Zander was born in 1830 in Krone, Prussia, and came to La Grange in 1859. After a time in mercantile efforts, he established himself in the saddlery business. According to *The La Grange Journal* of January 27, 1881, "B. Zander, saddler, came to La Grange over twenty years ago. He has built up a fine trade by close attention to business. He keeps saddles, bridles, and harnesses always on hand, in his shop opposite H. Scholtz's & Co." Bernard died at home in July of 1900 at the age of seventy, apparently of a heart attack. He had often said his goal in life was to be honest in all things, and his reputation indicated he had met his goal. Judge Robson delivered the graveside eulogy, praising Zander and the "sublime moral grandeur in the character of his race... [H]is rugged honesty attracted and commanded the attention and admiration of all." Zander was a member of the Knights of Honor and the Masons. His wife, Minna, died in 1889, of heart disease. They had five

children. One daughter, Sarah, took charge of the household when her mother died. Sarah died in the family home at the age of 40, three years before her father.

On or near the square in the twentieth century, one could find Jake Palmer's Vegetable and Fish Mar-

ket, Jake Palmer Eggs, and the dry goods and clothing stores that came to predominate from the 1930s on. Some of the names promised sophistication and class, such as the New York Store (1937-1987) and Heine Feigenbaum's Famous Store (1934-1964). Other stores went by the family name, such as Louis Klein & Sons Dry Goods (1931-1972).

Sam and Rosa Levine Toubin (of Brenham) opened the New York Store in 1937 on the south side of the square, but in 1939, they erected a sixty-foot building on the corner of the east side, where it remained until it closed in 1987. The name was changed to Toubin's Inc. in 1979, but remained a family department store with the most popularly priced merchandise. This store was one of nine in Texas operated by the Toubin family from 1923 through 1990. Maurice Levin, Rosa Toubin's brother, managed the La Grange store from 1939 through the late 1970s when he retired to San Antonio. Maurice, Rose, and their children, Frances and Alan were very involved in the community of La Grange while they resided there.

Louis Klein had one daughter (Ruth Klein Rubin of Hallettsville) and six sons, many of whom opened or took over a store in different towns in the area (Myke in Schulenburg, Larry in La Grange, Moe in Flatonia, Charles in Columbus, Sid in Smithville, and Herman in Texas City). Born in Austria in 1879, Louis arrived in New York when he was one year old. He moved to Austin and then La Grange in 1923 and opened the Louis Klein Store. He retired in his early eighties. Louis loved to talk about his youth on the Lower East Side and his cheder days. He was active in civic affairs as a charter member of the La Grange Lions Club, and the Masons. Klein also served on the La Grange City Council. Extended Klein family members (as well as Gindlers) remain active in Temple Israel in Schulenburg—

*continued on page 6*



*TJHS members took a walking tour of the La Grange square during the January 2009 quarterly meeting.*

# "Forgotten Gateway: Coming to America Through Galveston Island"

## An Exhibit at the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum

An exhibit, *Forgotten Gateway: Coming to America Through Galveston Island*, will open at the Bob Bullock State Texas History Museum in Austin on February 21, 2009. It is a first-of-its-kind, multi-faceted exhibition and community outreach program



that presents the story of Galveston as an immigrant port of entry into the United States during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

This unique exhibit will explore the story of immigration through

Galveston as one of America's top ten transoceanic ports of entry into Texas, and will include many Jewish families and the role that Rabbi Henry S. Cohen played in helping the Jewish immigrants.

These stories of the promises made, kept, and broken will be told through an array of photographs, film footage, graphics, narratives, hands-on interactive experiences, and historic artifacts brought together for the first time in the telling of the Galveston experience.

The exhibition will premiere in the Albert and Ethel Herzstein Hall of Special Exhibitions and will travel around the nation. The traveling exhibit will include outreach toolkits and corollary educational programming. A second, smaller version of the exhibit is being developed for venues such as community centers, schools, and li-



braries. While the exhibit is on display, the museum will have several community outreach initiatives that will travel with the exhibit to other venues.

These initiatives will include programming geared toward school children, and professional development training that will help teachers across multiple grade and subject levels.

The exhibit will be on display from February 21 to October 11, 2009. Visit the museum site at [www.thestoryoftexas.com](http://www.thestoryoftexas.com) for exhibit hours and admission prices. ❁

### *Jewish Merchants of La Grange, continued from page 5*

the only synagogue in the area.

George Lauterstein (1894-1984) lived in La Grange for some sixty years. At various times, early on with his father, Israel, who probably emigrated from Prussia, and later with his brother, Emanuel, George had several stores in the county. These included the Bargain Center, Lauterstein's, and stores in Weimer, Flatonia, Hallettsville, Bastrop, and Schulenburg. When George joined the Air Corps during World War I, he closed the Flatonia store and opened the one in La Grange after the war. Following a devastating fire in the 1950s, George rebuilt what was considered by many to be the most beautiful clothing store between Austin and Houston. When the partnership was dissolved, George took the stores

in Bastrop and La Grange, and Mannie took the others. Lauterstein's in La Grange became Gindler's in 1968. In addition to this store, the Gindler family also had clothing stores in numerous towns in Fayette and surrounding counties.

Lauterstein was director of the First National Bank of La Grange for fifty-four years, until his death. He was also a charter member of the La Grange Lion's Club, active in Masons, American Legion Post and VFW as a veteran of World War I. He was also a member of the Shriners and served as chairman of the Red Cross.

George's son, Moise Lauterstein, still owns the family home and plans to retire there from New York City. Moise took piano lessons from one of

the Alexander daughters at their home just off the square, which has since been torn down.

Other twentieth-century businesses include Sam Zander in 1902, Lack's Associate Store in 1965, and various law offices, including R.V. Solomon and Max Rosenstein of the Schlesinger Firm, and later, Simon and Rosenstein.

Gindler's, the last of its breed in La Grange, closed in 1998. The heyday of Jewish merchants has passed, but the legacy remains.

#### **Sources:**

<http://txgenweb3.org/txfayette/biographies.htm>. (The following articles were contributed by Carla Hillman Ratcliff from Record of

*continued on page 7*

# 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, and occasion—birthday, anniversary, award, new child or grandchild, etc.) and your name, along with a check in the amount of your choice to:

**The Texas Jewish Historical Society  
P. O. Box 10193  
Austin, TX 78766-0193**

Your support of 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

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

In honor/memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

**Acknowledge To:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

*Jewish Merchants of La Grange, continued from page 6*

Southwest Texas, published in 1894.)  
[http://txgenweb3.org/txfayette/bituaries\\_a.htm](http://txgenweb3.org/txfayette/bituaries_a.htm)  
[http://txgenweb3.org/txfayette/footprints3.htm#jewish\\_cemetery](http://txgenweb3.org/txfayette/footprints3.htm#jewish_cemetery)  
[http://txgenweb3.org/txfayette/la\\_grange\\_jewish\\_cemetery.htm](http://txgenweb3.org/txfayette/la_grange_jewish_cemetery.htm)  
<http://txgenweb3.org/txfayette/footprints3.htm>. After the article on the Ladies Cemetery Association, and before the article on the Jewish Cemetery, you can see a few buildings around the square and learn their history. Slide your mouse across the old photographs and you will see how each looks today.

[http://txgenweb3.org/txfayette/la\\_grange3.htm](http://txgenweb3.org/txfayette/la_grange3.htm) for 1881 newspaper article on La Grange businesses and a post card from 1898.  
[http://txgenweb3.org/txfayette/la\\_grange.htm](http://txgenweb3.org/txfayette/la_grange.htm)  
[http://txgenweb3.org/txfayette/la\)grange/historic/downtown.htm](http://txgenweb3.org/txfayette/la)grange/historic/downtown.htm)  
[http://www.birdseyeviews.org/zoom/php?city=La%20Grange&hear=1880&extra\\_info=](http://www.birdseyeviews.org/zoom/php?city=La%20Grange&hear=1880&extra_info=)  
[http://www.txgenweb2.org/txlavaca/jewish\\_cemetery.htm](http://www.txgenweb2.org/txlavaca/jewish_cemetery.htm)  
 Norman C. Krischke, Jewish Cemeteries, 1999. Published by Norman C. Krischke and available at the

Fayette Heritage Museum & Archives in La Grange.  
 Research by staff for Main Street Program Oct. '97 - Dec. '98  
 Fayette Heritage Museum & Archives, La Grange, Texas  
 December 8, 2008 email correspondence with Moise Lauterstein  
 December 8, 2008 email correspondence with Robert Gindler  
 December 9, 2008 email correspondence with Leon and Mimi Toubin

**Visit us on the web at [www.txjhs.org](http://www.txjhs.org).**

**The deadline for  
the May,  
2009 TJHS  
Newsletter is  
April 17.**

Wertheimer Middle School, continued from page 3

of Congregation Beth Yeshurun, Seven Acres Jewish Senior Care Service, and Hillel. He was a long-time member of the Rosenberg-Richmond Area Chamber of Commerce, and the Rosenberg Rotary Club. He was also a frequent volunteer at the Jewish Retirement Center, Meals on Wheels, and the Food Bank.

He taught classes at the University of Houston College of Pharmacology for over a decade. The University bestows a fellowship each year in his name.

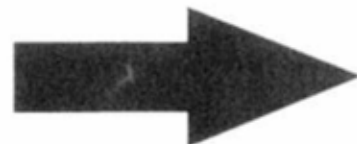
A dedicated husband and father, Henry and his wife, Sharla, raised four children and have ten grandchildren.

Henry Wertheimer never saw his actions as special. He felt blessed that he was given the intellect, the finances, and a supportive family that allowed him to serve others. In his faith, there are seven levels of giving. The highest level is giving anonymously, and not seeking praise or recognition, but giving because one should always try to help others. Always and without waiver, Wertheimer lived his life in the seventh level of giving. It is with great pride and honor that Wertheimer Middle School will continue his legacy.



## Special Pull-Out Section

Collect this rare first edition of the TJHS newsletter, originally published in August, 1980 and reproduced here as a keepsake for our members. Do you recognize the officers? Do you know the committee chairs? Have fun taking a look back almost thirty years to the beginning of the Society.



### 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. The only expense to the borrower will be the shipping of the exhibit back 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 Jack Gerrick at 817-927-8765 or email him at [texbed@aol.com](mailto:texbed@aol.com).

### WANT THIS NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL?

Would you like to save paper and instead receive this newsletter by email? You would be able to read the latest TJHS news in your inbox days before it would be scheduled to arrive in your mail box. Please send an email to [alexa.kirk@gmail.com](mailto:alexa.kirk@gmail.com) indicating that you would like to be on the email list. (The usual size of the newsletter is 2 MB.)

### We need Your Stories!

We are currently 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 quarterly newsletter. You can write it, or call our editor for an in-depth interview, and it can be written for you!

Everyone has a story to tell, long or short. Your history is of interest to members across Texas and the

nation! And you will be able to see your family's history in print. It is a wonderful keepsake and a valuable piece of genealogy for future generations.

So what are you waiting for? Send in your article to our assistant editor, Davie Lou Solka, at [davielou@solka.net](mailto:davielou@solka.net), mail it to 3808 Woodbrook Circle, Austin, TX 78759, or call her at 512-527-3799.



# Newsletter

## of the Texas Jewish Historical Society

Volume 1, Number 1

August, 1980

### Texas Jewish Historical Society Founded

The Jewish presence in Texas has been long and outstanding, extending back perhaps even before the Austin Settlements in 1821. That history is well worth preserving and disseminating. With such a goal in view, the Texas Jewish Historical Society was established on the evening of January 26, 1980, and incorporated on February 15, 1980.

The purpose of the Texas Jewish Historical Society is to collect, preserve, publish, and popularize materials which concern the settlement and history of Jews in Texas and their participation in and contributions to its social, economic, religious, political, professional, and cultural growth.

### T.J.H.S. Collection Established

On March 24, 1980 Dr. Don E. Carleton, Director of the Barker Texas History Center at the University of Texas at Austin, extended to us an offer to establish a Texas Jewish Historical Society Collection. His letter offered the facilities of the Center to serve "as the official repository for the historical collections of the Texas Jewish Historical Society." Under such an arrangement, all papers will become the property of the Barker Texas History Center once donated, but they will be listed in finding guides as being in the Texas Jewish Historical Society Collection.

After consultation with the Executive Committee, the President informed Dr. Carleton that we wished to formally accept his kind offer and that of the Center. Under these provisions, the Center will assume all responsibilities for the preser-

vation of the materials donated, while the Society will receive both credit for its efforts and a permanent collection.

The papers of Rabbi Henry Cohen, already owned by the Center, will be made part of the T.J.H.S. Collection. A new addition to the Collection, the marriage certificate of Moses Albert Levy, a surgeon general under Sam Houston, will be presented by Rabbi Jimmy Kessler.

If you would like to contribute to the new T.J.H.S. Collection, please contact Larry Gretsky (1507 Edgewood, Austin 78722), our Archivist.

(This arrangement was established to allow those individuals who so desire to place their papers in a central location. It was not meant to replace or to compete with local archives, but rather to supplement them.)

### From Our President

The publication of our first newsletter is clearly a momentous occasion as it signals another step in the establishment of the permanent presence of the Texas Jewish Historical Society. A great deal of thanks is due to Donna Berliner (Dallas) and Barry Green (Tyler), our editors. In addition, much gratitude must be conveyed to Mrs. Helene Levy (Galveston) for handling the distribution of all our recent mailings, particularly this newsletter.

There are several items of which I must ask you to take cognizance. The first is in the realm of the production of materials for sharing and publication. Future newsletters will require such materials. If you will remember from the First Gathering, one of the purposes of the T.J.H.S. is to encourage publication by amateur historians and to provide vehicles necessary for such publication. By virtue of your membership, you are entitled to use your Society and its facilities for such purposes. I want to encourage you to do so. Whether it is an anecdote, or a family history, or in-depth research, regardless — do submit it. Contact Donna Berliner (8500 Hillcrest, Dallas 75225) or Barry Green (4801 Richmond, Tyler 75703) for any further information.

In as much as we will be producing a quality annual publication, I wish to urge you to be involved. Consider either putting forward your own work for consideration and/or asking others to do  
(continued on page 2)

President's Column, continued

the same. Clearly, the goal is to establish an outstanding literary journal, open to all who wish to write on the Texas Jewish experience. Needless to say, the existence of such a publication will stimulate the production of such work. Yet, we need materials with which to begin. If you are interested, contact Seth Molitz (7506 Huntleigh Lane, San Antonio 78209) for further information.

As standard fare in our newsletter, we wish to establish a column for sharing. In this "What's Do'in" portion, we want to solicit brief descriptions of current research, projects, efforts, and activities. Moreover, if information is being sought for research, our newsletter would be a perfect mode for circulating such a request. Please send along such materials to Donna or Barry for inclusion in our next issue.

There are two projects in which I hope all of us are getting involved. One is a personal family history. Not just a tree, but a collection of data that reflects genealogy, biographical information, family movements, and any other facts that would contribute to the writing of Texas Jewish history. The other is collecting histories of the older (chronologically) members of your communities/synagogues. Their personal histories, as well as reflections on the communities in which they live or lived, must be preserved. If you are not doing it personally, then consider involving either other organizations in your area or the families of those to be interviewed. Each of us can be involved in this effort directly or indirectly. The superb work done by Mrs. Inna Joy Gandler (3001 Wooded Acres, Waco 76710) will be shared through this newsletter. All it takes in either or both efforts is a cassette recorder, time, and interest.

As the T.J.H.S. grows, we will need not only more members, but local, informal organization as well. These mini-gatherings will serve to reinforce the comradery of our Society and provide a forum for the sharing of information.

Officers will be elected annually for a period of one year and with a limitation of three consecutive years, with the exception of the Archivist and Associate Archivist.

Following are the officers for 1980-81.

Executive Committee

- President . . . . . Rabbi Jimmy Kessler (Galveston)
- 1st Vice President . Mrs. Frances Kallison (San Antonio)
- 2nd Vice President . Mr. Herbert Given (El Paso)
- Corresponding Secretary . . . . . Mr. Lionel Schaefer (Houston)
- Recording Secretary . . . . . Mr. Stuart Klein (McAllen)
- Treasurer . . . . . Mr. Edwin Lux (Dallas)
- Archivist . . . . . Dr. Larry Gretskey (Austin)
- Associate Archivist . . . . . Mrs. Doris Glasser (Houston)

Standing Committees

- Legal . . . . . Judge Norman Black (Houston)
  - Archives . . . . . Dr. Larry Gretskey (Austin)
  - Publications . . . . . Mrs. Doris Glasser (Houston)
- Editorial Board
- Quarterly . . . . . Ms. Donna Berliner (Dallas)
  - . . . . . Mr. Barry Green (Clyer)
  - Annual . . . . . Dr. Seth Molitz (San Antonio)
  - Membership . . . . . Mrs. Lynn Schwarz (Houston)

- Finance . . . . . Mr. Milton Smith (Austin)
- Public Relations . . . . . Dr. Sanford Kanter (Houston)
- . . . . . Mrs. Mona Gower (Seabrook)
- Regional Organization . . . . . Mrs. Helen Smith (Austin)

Directors

- Mrs. Susanne Friedman (Houston)
- Mrs. Ginger Jacobs (Dallas)
- Rabbi David Jacobson (San Antonio)
- Mr. Adrian Kevy, Sr. (Galveston)
- Dr. Barbara Schachtel (Houston)
- Mr. David Schwarz (Houston)
- Mr. Milton Smith (Austin)
- Dr. Seth Molitz (San Antonio)

Jimmy Kessler

Such groups will allow our state-wide organization to maintain a firm grass-roots foundation while permitting Society involvement in local historical projects.

Expectations for the future are many: grants, publications, meetings, lectures, seminars, and much more. Each takes time, effort, involvement, and interest. The purpose of the T.J.H.S. is to create an atmosphere in which such achievements can be attained. Do plan to be involved, because you are the only ones who can bring these possibilities to fruition. We need active participants, we need research and papers for our next annual Gathering and our publications, we need committee members, we need local ambassadors spreading the name of the Society; in short, we need you. The T.J.H.S. will grow in strength — only if you make it happen. Do be involved.

## First Gathering Keynote Address

Dr. Jacob Rader Marcus, "the Dean of American Jewish historians," was the keynote speaker on the evening of January 26, 1980. The following is excerpted from his address.

"I came down here . . . to congratulate you all. To congratulate you because in a way, Jewish history in North America began in Texas. And in a way, that is literally true - in Texas and in neighboring Mexico.

"About ninety years before the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock, Hernando Alonzo, a man of Jewish descent, was burnt at the stake in Mexico City on the charge of being a heretic, a secret Jew. In the late 1590's and the early 1600's, another man of Jewish descent, and a man who proclaimed himself proudly as a Jew, was burnt at the stake. He lived in a province of northern Mexico that included part of Texas territory. In the late 1600's, there were two governors of Jewish origin who were arrested by the Inquisition, and tried; both died in Inquisitional prisons. One was in a northern Mexican province that included part of Texas, and the other was in the province that we know today as New Mexico.

"In all probability, approximately during the time of the War of 1812, there was a West Point graduate who was fighting here, on Texas soil. In 1826, there was a German Jew, Adolphus Stern, who fought in the Fredonian Revolt, and later on became a very distinguished Texan. I come from Cincinnati, and we have a Jewish family there called the Johnsons. They're still Jews, still good Jews. Edgar Johnson was massacred in 1836 by the Mexicans at Goliad when Colonel Fannin and his men were all murdered. . . .

"You have a glorious history, a history that is worth studying and worth knowing about. . . .

"You have a wonderful history in this great Lone Star State. You have a Bible, where you have the greatest sentence the world has ever conceived and the human hand has ever written: 'Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.' And over 2,000 years ago, we had a religious leader, before the birth of Christianity, who taught us our 'golden rule': 'What is hateful . . . unto you, do not unto your neighbor.'

"It is my faith, hope, and conviction, that when every Jew is distinguished among his fellow citizens, for his personal integrity, then nothing on God's green earth is going to shake his position. Character is the most important thing in life. If you're good men and women, then all the storms of life may whistle and howl about your ears. But when the din and the noise and the turmoil have passed away, and the dawn of a new day comes shining over the horizon, - you will still be standing here, erect, unflinching, undaunted: an eternal people."

## Our Society Incorporated

On February 15, 1980, the Secretary of State for the State of Texas issued charter number 509732 to the Texas Jewish Historical Society, Inc. Two weeks after the First Gathering of the T.J.H.S., our organization took an official place in the records of the State. Much thanks is due to Mr. Lionel Schooler, our Corresponding Secretary, for carrying out this effort to its fruition. Currently, Loumie, Jimmy Kessler, and Ed Lux, our Treasurer, are in the process of applying for tax exempt status from the Internal Revenue Service.

### Survey

If you know of any projects completed, underway, or projected in the field of Texas Jewish History, or sources of information and location of documents, please forward one copy to the newsletter editors and one to Dr. Larry Gretsky, T.J.H.S. Archivist. This will be the beginning of our cataloging of the Texas Jewish experience.

## Memberships

in the

## Texas Jewish Historical Society

are available on a Regular, Patron, Gift, and Organizational basis.

Contributions to the Texas Jewish Historical Society are tax deductible within the limits of the law.

For Membership information, contact: Rabbi James L. Kessler  
Temple B'nai Israel  
3008 Avenue O  
Galveston, Texas 77550

# Recording Family Histories

The T.J.H.S. represents an organized effort to preserve and disseminate the history of Jews in Texas. As an individual member of a Texas Jewish family — whether it is sixth or first generation — you may work toward that goal by researching your family history. Ima Joy Chodorow Gandler of Temple Kodesh Shalom in Waco has been working in this area, and shares with us some of her methods. In this issue, we look at oral and written histories and some pertinent questions regarding the generation of great-grandparents.

## Oral History

Clarity is foremost. Be sure that the tape used when interviewing is of the highest quality and that the speakers speak clearly. Any material written in conjunction with the taped interview should be legible. (If no recording equipment is available, write it out.)

Interview anyone on your mother's side and/or on your father's side of the family. Full names, dates, and places are very important. Begin with the older members of the family, if possible. If they do not live near you, begin then with your parents and write letters to relatives. Keep all correspondence.

Begin the tape with the following statements.

My full name is:

I am the son/daughter of:

I live at:

Today's date is:

I am interviewing:

He/She lives at:

Then begin the interview with the following questions:

What do you know about your ancestors before your great-grandfather and great-grandmother? (If possible, answer the following pertaining to those ancestors before the great-grandparents.)

What was your great-grandfather's name, his birth date, his birth place, and his burial place?

What was your great-grandmother's name, including her maiden name, her birth date, birth place, and burial place?

When and where were your great-grandparents married?

What were the names of their children — in order of birth — and what were their birth dates?

To whom were each of those children married (include maiden names when applicable), when were they married, where did they live, and where is each buried?

## Written History

If you begin a scrapbook today, you are preserving written history for posterity. The scrapbook should be "in chronological order, containing newspaper articles with date and year, pictures, programs, documents, or anything pertaining to your family. Do not use tape. Use photo mounts to outline items. Put programs in manila envelopes and paste envelopes on page. You could also keep a diary listing things pertaining to you or members of your family on the day it happens.

T.J.H.S. members are welcome to forward to the editors additional questions which would add to the family history project. In the next issue, we will focus on questions regarding the first generation in America.

The Newsletter of the Texas Jewish Historical Society is published quarterly.

Editors

Ms. Donna Berliner

Dr. Barry Green

Proofreader

Ms. Leah Rae Miron

President

Rabbi Jimmy Kessler

Texas Jewish Historical Society  
1507 Edgewood  
Austin, Texas 78722



# The 30th Annual Gathering of the Texas Jewish Historical Society

## April 24-26, 2009 in College Station, Texas

at the **College Station Hilton Hotel and Conference Center**

801 University Drive East, College Station, TX 77840. Reservations: 979-693-7500, 1-800-HILTON, or www.hilton.com.

*Ask for the TJHS rate of \$99 per night. Group Code is TJHS.*

**Deadline for Hotel Reservations is April 3, 2009**

### Friday, April 24, 2009

- 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM Registration at the hotel (outside the Brazos Amphitheater)
- 4:00 PM Board Meeting in the Brazos Amphitheater
- 6:00 PM Shabbat Dinner at the home of Anita and Leslie Feigenbaum
- 7:30 PM Shabbat service at Congregation Beth Shalom, followed by Oneg.

### Saturday, April 25, 2009

- 9:30 AM Bagels and coffee at Congregation Beth Shalom
- 10:30 AM Guest speaker at Congregation Beth Shalom: Kay Goldman, Ph.D. will present on Post Civil War Texas Jewish businessmen and their involvement in their communities. (Optional: Torah Study and Tour of Hillel at 10:30 AM or a Shabbat morning service at Chabad of Brazos Valley at 11:00 AM.)
- 11:30 AM Lunch on your own.
- Afternoon Options
  - Visit two Jewish sections of the Bryan City Cemetery
  - Tour the George Bush Presidential Library and Museum
  - Tour Texas A&M University Bonfire Memorial
  - Tour Messina Hof Winery, a Texas vineyard established in 1977
  - Visit historic downtown Bryan for shopping and dining
- 6:30 PM Havdalah service and dinner at the hotel with a program on the Jewish presence in the Bryan/College Station community featuring speaker Rabbi Peter Tarlow, Executive Director of the Texas A&M University Hillel, along with other members of the local Jewish community.

### Sunday, April 26, 2009

- 8:30 AM Continental Breakfast in the Brazos Amphitheater
- 9:00 AM Annual General Membership Meeting in the Brazos Amphitheater



## Annual Gathering Registration Form

**Deadline for Registration is April 3, 2009.**

Please list name of each person attending:

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Fee: \$85 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
*(number attending)*

Mail form and check made out to TJHS to: Anita Feigenbaum, 1009 Carmel Place, College Station, TX 77841.

If you have any questions, contact Anita at 979-680-8944.

# TJHS Meeting in La Grange, January 9-11, 2009

by Vickie Vogel

Forty-nine members and friends of the Texas Jewish Historical Society registered for the winter weekend in La Grange, January 9-11. In addition, members of Temple Israel in Schulenburg joined the group for various activities.

On Friday night, the festivities began in Schulenburg with dinner at historic Frank's Restaurant and religious services at Temple Israel. As there is no rabbi, services are conducted by the participants and are followed by an Oneg. Sally Drayer lit the candles and started the service. David Leff of Houston became the song leader, with Roy Elsner of Dallas and Ben Rosenberg of Sugar Land leading other sections. Marvin Rich and Ruth Nathan of Houston, and Jan Hart of Temple, as well as Temple members Arza Funk (Houston and La Grange)

and Linda Behrend (New Ulm) also participated. The sermon was delivered by Vickie Vogel titled, "The Wisdom of the Three Stooges" (you had to be there).

On Saturday morning, TJHS gathered on the square in La Grange for a presentation by Vickie Vogel on former Jewish merchants and the locations of their businesses (see article "Jewish Businesses of La Grange" on page 4). Taking shelter from the wind on the steps of the four sides of the 19th-century Fayette County Courthouse, the group also enjoyed photos of some of the old businesses.

The carpooled caravan then wended its way to Round Top for a tour of Henkel



*Phil and Elaine Albin (left) and Helen and Lawrence Wilk (right) grab a front row seat at The Bugle Boy to enjoy the show.*



*Everyone enjoyed the lively show at The Bugle Boy*

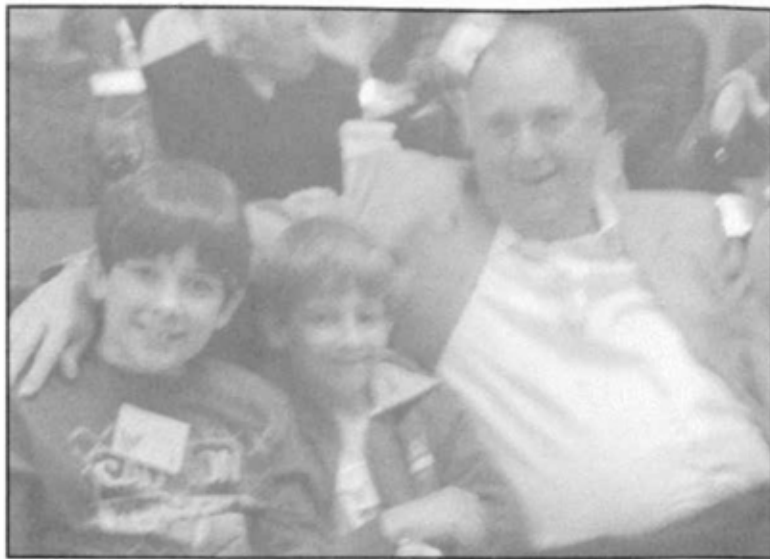


*David Vogel tells about the old La Grange Jewish Cemetery.*

Square with free time to explore the shops of this tiny town. Henkel Square Pioneer Museum Village is an outdoor museum preserving an authentic representation of area life in the early 19th-century. We were all disappointed that Royer's was closed for remodeling and we would not be able to sample their renowned pies, but other cafes were enjoyable.

Saturday afternoon found the group at Katy Sweet Confectioners in La Grange for a tour, sampling, and shopping. We were especially inter-

*continued on page 15*



*Gary Whitfield and his grandsons enjoy the show at The Bugle Boy*



*Mabel Massin*



*Charles and Ruth Nathan*

the old Jewish cemetery located on private property next to the Colorado River. David Vogel restored the cemetery years ago, with help from Temple youth groups from Houston and Austin, as well as great cooperation from the property owners. Vogel shared stories of those buried there and the history of the small cemetery. The local newspaper editor took photos of the event.

Following a delicious dinner at Bistro 108, the

*continued on page 16*

ested in Katy Sweet, since their candies are certified kosher and are marketed in other parts of the country. The process of candymaking as well as the kashrut procedure was explained. Several members took the opportunity to discuss fundraising and/or Temple gift shop orders with Katy Sweet products.

The next stop was



*The tour of the candy factory was sweet!*

fine-dining restaurant in La Grange, TJHS was ready for entertainment at The Bugle Boy, the highly-renowned listening room that hosts Texas, national, and international touring musicians. Sugar Bayou had been selected to play that night because their lead singer, April Rapier, is Jewish. April led the sold-out house in a rousing rendition of Hava Nagila, and other songs such as Bei Mir Bist Du Schoen were added to their regular eclectic mix of Cajun flavored folk and blue grass. Our group (which took up half the venue) ranged in age from 11 to 96, and all were rockin' to the lively music!



We toured the Fayette County courthouse.



Max Stool

Sunday morning was set aside for the open board meeting, and needless to say, kolaches were added to the regular breakfast fare since La Grange, home of the Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center, is primarily a Czech-settled area (with strong German influences).

Vickie Vogel, immediate Past



Willie and Doug Braudaway

President of the Society, and David Vogel, board member, were in charge of planning and directing the weekend's activities.

## Southern Caribbean Jewish Heritage Tour

If you would like to cruise on the Caribbean and tour Jewish sites on the islands, now is your chance. Houston Historical Tours and Brentwood Travel is offering a Southern Caribbean Jewish Heritage Tour, May 29



pre-cruise stay in Puerto Rico and visits to Aruba, Curacao, Dominica, and St. Thomas. Please contact



through June 7, 2009. The package includes a two-night

historical Tours at 713-392-0867, or [houstonhistory@aol.com](mailto:houstonhistory@aol.com).



# Speakers Bureau

When an organization asks TJHS for a speaker, we will suggest those on our list who match the criteria. That organization is responsible for making contact with the speaker and handling any details. No re-

muneration (other than expenses, lodging, meals, etc.) is provided to the speaker. If you would like to be included in this database, please provide the following information:



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email (print clearly): \_\_\_\_\_

Topic(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Length: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Length: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Length: \_\_\_\_\_

Brief description of each topic (use another sheet of paper if needed):

\_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Distance you are willing to travel: \_\_\_\_\_

Restrictions or special requirements: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Mail this information to:  
Texas Jewish Historical Society, P. O. Box 10193, Austin, Texas 78766-0193,  
or email it to [txjhs@yahoo.com](mailto:txjhs@yahoo.com).*



# Texas Jewish Historical Society 2008-2009

## Officers

### *President*

Sally Drayer (Dallas)

### *1st Vice-President*

David Hoffman (Evant)

### *2nd Vice-President*

Rusty Milstein (Longview)

### *3rd Vice-President*

Jane Guzman (Dallas)

### *Treasurer*

Ruth Nathan (Houston)

### *Recording Secretary*

David Leff (Houston)

### *Corresponding Secretary*

Samylu Rubin (Dallas)

### *Parliamentarian*

Herman Morris (Fort Worth)

### *Historian*

Sheila Rosenfield (Austin)

### *Archivist*

Ima Joy Gandler (Waco)

## Board of Trustees 2007-2009

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Claire Brooks (Austin)

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Jenny Solomon (Fort Worth)

Max Stool (San Antonio)

David Vogel (La Grange)

Hollace Weiner (Fort Worth)

Sherry Zander (Dallas)

Rotating Member (Various)

## Welcome New Members!

*October 1, 2008 - December 31, 2008*

### **Susan & Robert May**

260 Northwind Dr.  
El Paso, TX 79912  
915-581-0010

### **Elka & David Poor**

P.O. Box 47  
Moshav Naftali - Upper Galilee  
Israel 13830  
011-972-77-200-7080  
poor1ch@012.net.il

### **Nancy & Joel Roffman**

5505 Burning Tree Cr.  
Plano, TX 75093  
972-380-5690  
joel.roffman@jmail.com

### **Carrie Sheiness**

2900 Sunridge Dr., Apt. 1614  
Austin, TX 78741

### **Sarah & Frank Sheiness**

13429 Gent Dr.  
Austin, TX 78729

## Has Your Address Changed?

If you have any changes in your information, please send those changes to:

**Leon Brachman**  
3720 Autumn Dr.  
Fort Worth, TX 76109  
phone: 817-924-9207  
e-mail: leonhb@flash.net

In accordance with Article V, Section B of the bylaws of the Texas Jewish Historical Society, the following slate of officers and directors are listed below. The election will be Sunday, April 26, 2009 in College Station, Texas at the Annual Gathering at the College Station Hilton Hotel and Conference Center at 9:00 AM. Only members who are current in the payment of all dues as of the date of the election shall be entitled to vote. Nominations will be taken from the floor.

#### SLATE OF OFFICERS

President	Sally Drayer, <i>Dallas</i>
1st Vice President	Rusty Milstein, <i>Longview</i>
2nd Vice President	David Hoffman, <i>Evant</i>
3rd Vice President	Jane Guzman, <i>Dallas</i>
Treasurer	Ruth Nathan, <i>Houston</i>
Recording Secretary	Marilyn Jorrie, <i>Boulder, Colorado</i>
Corresponding Secretary	Samylu Rubin, <i>Dallas</i>
Parliamentarian	Marc Wormser, <i>Waco</i>
Historian	Lynn Greenberg, <i>Houston</i>
Archivist	Ima Joy Gandler, <i>Waco</i>

#### TJHS BOARD NOMINATIONS 2009-2011 TERM

Robert Abzug, <i>Austin</i>	Yetta Leshin, <i>Corpus Christi</i>
Harold Berman, <i>Dallas</i>	Abbi Michaelson, <i>Lockhart</i>
Leon Brachman, <i>Fort Worth</i>	Mitzi Milstein, <i>Longview</i>
Douglas Braudaway, <i>Del Rio</i>	Susan Novick, <i>El Paso</i>
Claire Brooks, <i>Austin</i>	Rabbi Jordan Parr, <i>Plano</i>
Dick Brooks, <i>Austin</i>	Mina Pashkoff, <i>Houston</i>
Roy Elsner, <i>Dallas</i>	Shirley Rich, <i>Houston</i>
Kay Goldman, <i>College Station</i>	Beverly Trachtenberg, <i>Houston</i>
Scott Langston, <i>Weatherford</i>	Rosalie Weisfeld, <i>McAllen</i>
David Leff, <i>Houston</i>	Gary Whitfield, <i>Fort Worth</i>

#### CONTINUING BOARD MEMBERS 2008-2010 TERM

Raye Brown, <i>Houston</i>	Selma Mantel, <i>Houston</i>
Bob Gindler, <i>Sugar Land</i>	Greg Meyer, <i>San Antonio</i>
Lynn Greenberg, <i>Houston</i>	Davie Lou Solka, <i>Austin</i>
Neil Gurwitz, <i>Bastrop</i>	Jenny Solomon, <i>Fort Worth</i>
Jan Hart, <i>Temple</i>	Max Stool, <i>San Antonio</i>
Nancy Hoffman, <i>Austin</i>	David Vogel, <i>La Grange</i>
Marilyn Jorrie, <i>Boulder, Colorado</i>	Hollace Weiner, <i>Fort Worth</i>
Ed Katten, <i>Waco</i>	Sherry Zander, <i>Dallas</i>
Howard Lackman, <i>Arlington</i>	Rotating Member, <i>Various</i>

Nominating Committee: Vickie Vogel, Chairperson; Elaine Albin, Ruth Heidenheimer, Selma Mantel, Davie Lou Solka