

The Texas Jewish Historical Society Magazine



June 2024

TJHS Annual Gathering, April 12-14, 2024 Richardson, Texas



New Board and Officers –Hy Penn, Jane Manaster, Jeff Levine, Marilyn Lippman, Michael Furgatch, Jan Siegel Hart, Gayle Cannon, Lynda Furgatch, Jeff Aresty, Hollace Weiner, Trustees; Vickie Vogel, Parliamentarian; Sally Drayer, Archivist/Historian; John Campbell, Recording Secretary; Joan Linares, President; Ben Rosenberg, Treasurer. Sheldon Lippman at podium in back, Installing Officer.



Past Presidents. Back row – Rusty Milstein (2010-2014), Susan Zack Lewis (2019-2021), Charles B. Hart (2002-2004), Sheldon Lippman (2021-2023), David Beer (2015-2017). Front row – Vickie Vogel (2006-2008), Barbara Rosenberg (1995-1998), Sally Drayer (2008-2010), Davie Lou Solka (2017-2019).

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Content

Quarterly Magazine

The Texas Jewish Historical Society 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Texas Jewish history, oral histories, and requests for assistance with research are welcome, as are photographs and historical documents. We recommend that you provide photocopies of all documents and photographs. Please provide color photocopies or scans at 300 dpi or greater in gif, tif, or jpg format, and send electronically to editor@txjhs.org or by mail to Texas Jewish Historical Society, P. O. Box 10193, Austin, Texas. Be sure to include your name and contact information.

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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.

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Welcome New Members!

Paula & Howard Bernstein
Highwood, Illinois

Marshall Coleman
Frisco

Sandra Deitz
Leander

Kay Goldman & Barry Russ
Houston

Walter Hecht
Houston

Judith Hersh
Waco

Marsha & Lewis Hoffer
Austin

Stanley & Sheila Horn
Houston

Sandra Horwitz
Dallas

James Morris
San Antonio

Debra Pfister
Frisco

Jo & David Reingold
Richardson

Liz & Michel Solka
Austin

Felicia Williamson
Dallas

If you have any changes in your information,
please send them to admin@txjhs.org

Message from the President

by Joan Linares



As I begin my second year as TJHS President, I want to revisit the goals that I set a year ago for the organization. The four goals I set forth were to grow the organization, collaborate with other organizations, initiate a program to preserve historic synagogues, and encourage continued participation in our grant program.

The first goal was to grow the organization. Thanks to our terrific Membership Committee led by Barbara Green Stone, TJHS had an active presence at a variety of venues to expand awareness of the organization. Joyce Davidoff worked closely with Barbara. We welcome new membership committee member, Bunny Edelman, who will send out New Member Welcome Packets. We need to continue efforts to attract younger members.

In regard to the second goal of collaboration, we have been highly successful this past year. Last July some of our TJHS members were in attendance at the premier showing of *People of the Crossing*. This documentary was a TJHS grant recipient. In September TJHS members were in attendance at the Houston Holocaust Museum for the opening of the Houston Holocaust Survivors Exhibit. The museum was a TJHS grant recipient. We partnered with the Southern Jewish Historical Society in Octo-

ber and TJHS members comprised a large portion of program participants. Many speakers were also TJHS grant recipients. In early February some TJHS members attended Yom Limud in Houston to support a TJHS grant recipient. We are reciprocal members of the New Mexico Jewish Historical Society and are an affiliate member of the Texas State Historical Association. Some of our TJHS members participated in a session at the TSHA Conference in February. TJHS presented the Lynna Kay Shuffield Award to Gabrielle Lyle at the TSHA conference. TJHS partnered with the Dallas Jewish Historical Society in March at an event which featured a TJHS grant recipient. In late March TJHS members traveled to Baton Rouge to view a thesis show by one of our TJHS grant recipients. The show featured southern Jewish historical photos which included several Texas sites. In early April, TJHS members presented a session about nominations for the National Register of Historic Places. This was at the Real Places conference sponsored by the Friends of Texas Historical Commission and the Texas Historical Commission.

Additionally, we have made connections with Jewish Studies Programs such as the Ackerman Center at UTD, the Joan and Stanford Alexander South Texas Jewish Archives at Rice University, the University of Houston Jewish Studies Program, and the UT Austin Schusterman Center for Jewish Studies. I zoomed with a representative of Keshet, which is an organization that works for full equality of all LGBTQ Jews and their families in Jewish life. I also zoomed with a representative of the Jewish Community Legacy Project who wants to start a cohort in Texas.

The third goal was to preserve historic synagogues. I am happy to

announce that my local synagogue, Congregation K'Nesseth Israel, officially became listed on the National Register of Historic Places on February 12, 2024. TJHS member and historian David Moore wrote that nomination and is willing to work on another one pro bono for TJHS.

The fourth goal was to encourage continued participation in our grant program. This past year we have awarded five grants which include a Jacob de Cordova project in Waco, grave markers at Tiferet Israel in Dallas, Houston Holocaust Museum exhibit on Houston Survivors, cemetery maintenance in East Texas, and Crypto-Jewish migration in the Rio Grande Valley. The grants help further our TJHS mission to preserve Texas Jewish history and educate others throughout Texas.

In regard to the goals set for last year, we have met and exceeded expectations. This summer at our quarterly meeting we will revisit the goals from this past year and set new goals for the year ahead. The quarterly meeting will be July 27-28th in Round Rock. Thanks to Lynda Furgatch for making all of the arrangements. Saturday will be a work session for board members with the quarterly board meeting on Sunday.

Last fall, we launched the Rabbi Jimmy Kessler Educational Outreach Fund to honor the founder of TJHS. We set a lofty goal for the campaign which is \$250,000. We are about one third of our way to reach that goal. I encourage you to give to the Kessler Fund to honor Jimmy and help us meet our goal. The Kessler Fund Committee is in charge of determining how that fund will be spent and that information will be shared with our members.

I am honored to continue to serve

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Dr. Hy Penn presents Saturday night program – History of Jewish Magicians and Magic Show by the Great Hydini. Above - Hy Penn, Steven Solka. Top Right - Hy Penn, Susan Zack Lewis. Right - Barbara Green Stone, Hy Penn, Phyllis Berman, Joan Linares.



Debbie Pfister, Ackerman Center for Holocaust Studies, UT/Dallas

Jo Reingold, Sr. Vice President and Incoming President of National JWVA Jewish War Veterans of USA and National Ladies Auxilliary.



Allen Mondell and Hy Penn.



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Message from the President, continued from page 3

as President for another year. I encourage you to get involved in the many worthwhile projects of our organization. Please let me know if you are interested in serving on a committee. I am always open to hear your suggestions and ideas for the betterment of the Society. Thank you all for doing your part to perpetuate the Texas Jewish Historical Society. 🇺🇸

Annual Gathering, continued from page 5



Hollace Weiner, Cynthia Mondell, Jan Siegel Hart.



Barbara & Ben Rosenberg lead Havdalah.



Dr. Nils Roemer, Director of the Ackerman Center for Holocaust Studies and Dean of the Harry W. Bass, Jr. School of the Arts, Humanities, and Technology.



Lynda Furgatch, Marilyn Lippman greet Rusty Milstein at Registration Desk.



Money donated to Kessler Fund from Tau Delta Phi alumni – Ivan Edelman, Tau Delta Phi alumni; Sheldon Lippman, Chair, Kessler Fund; Joan Linares, TJHS President; Edward Stone, Tau Delta Phi alumni.

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Friday night dinner at Congregation Beth Torah.



Sunday Morning Meeting.



Saturday night dinner attendees.





Board Meeting, March, 2024

Top Row – John Campbell, Sheldon Lippman, Joan Linares, Gary Whitfield, Marilyn Lippman
 2nd Row- Barbara & Ben Rosenberg, Lonnie Schooler, Sally Drayer, Amy Milstein, Vickie Vogel
 3rd Row – Allen Mondell, Jane Manaster, Davie Lou Solka, Anita Feigenbaum, Barbara Green Stone
 4th Row – Marc Wormser, Bob & Susan Lewis, Susan Novick, Hy Penn, Scott Langston
 5th Row – Joyce Davidoff, David Vogel

Notes from the Board Meeting, March 17, 2024 Richardson, Texas

The quarterly board meeting of The Texas Jewish Historical Society was held via Zoom March 17, 2024. The Annual Gathering was held in Richardson, Texas on April 12-14, 2024.

- Electronic election of the Proposed Slate of Officers will be sent to the membership March 25 with voting to end March 29.
- It was announced that Bunny Edelman will be sending Welcome Packets to New Members.
- There have been 982 people who have logged on to the website since the last meeting.
- A \$2500 grant was awarded to Nancy Katz to interview Crypto-Jewish families in the Valley. (More information in article elsewhere in this issue)
- Cynthia Wolf resigned as Awards Chair, and Shana Bauman was appointed to that position.
- Sally Drayer reported that she had received forty Haggadahs that were a part of the donation by TJHS member Howard Glick, from the now-closed Temple Mount Sinai in Texarkana, and they had been donated to Texas A&M Hillel in the name of TJHS. (See thank you note under “Letters to the Editor” in this issue.)
- A second payment of \$5,000 (out of three-year commitment of \$15,000) was sent to the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History to pay for the digitizing of some of our records. They are beginning that process with the papers of Rabbi Henry Cohen of Galveston and the Galveston Movement.
- The Summer Board Meeting will be in Round Rock July 27-28, 2024.
- It was announced that K’Neseth Israel Synagogue in Baytown had been listed on the National Register of Historic places.

One Lesbian, Texan, Jew's Story

by Kachel Kohnhorst (She/Her), Keshet's Southwest Education and Training Manager

My grandparents, Dr. Evan Manuel Hersh, ז"ל, and Lydia Steihl Hersh, are two of the most wonderful people I ever knew. My grandfather taught me to always have curiosity about the world around me, and my grandmother taught me to never give up, no matter the odds.

Lydia, my maternal grandmother, emigrated to America through New York after World War II. She was born in Poland (probably in 1934) and was dropped off at a Catholic orphanage when the war reached their home. Her family (mother: Frieda Steihl and father: Jonas Steihl) said they would pick her up after the war if they survived.

After the war, my grandmother was reunited with her family. The war and the Nazis who perpetrated it had tried to end their lives. The terror they faced could have broken their spirit and their desire for freedom, but they picked themselves up and came to America, to New York City as a family unit. My grandmother went to public school and eventually attended City College of New York. During her young adulthood, she worked in the nature department of a Jewish sleep-away camp in New York (sixty years later, I followed in her footsteps, working at URJ Greene Family Camp for ten summers). There, she met my grandfather, Evan M. Hersh, and they fell in love.

My grandparents finished up their studies and my grandfather became an oncologist and moved his small family to Houston. He moved to take a job working at MD Anderson in the cancer ward, where he worked for twenty years. My grandmother hosted a public TV show about science on Houston channel thirty-nine and held other jobs as she raised her family. My

uncle Mark Hersh was already born when my family moved to Houston, but my uncle Dr. Darren Hersh and my mother Carolyn Rose (née Hersh) K o h n h o r s t were born in Texas' greatest city, Houston. My family prides itself on loving learning, loving each other, and loving the world, and this is where my coming-out story starts.

I was born in Texas. My family calls me Rachel, but professionally I go by Kachel Kohnhorst. I use she and her pronouns, and I identify as a lesbian, a Texan, and a Jew. I have been a public-school educator, a full-time assistant director at URJ Greene Family Camp, and now I am the Southwest Education and Training Manager at Keshet, which works toward the full equality of LGBTQ+ Jews and their families in Jewish life. My passions are to teach and help those around me learn and grow. I had to do a lot of learning and growing to be fully able to come into my own as a proud twenty-eight-year-old, and much of that growth happened at Greene.

I was a camper for three summers at Greene (also known as GFC), I was a summer staffer for nine summers, and I was on the full-time team for just over a year. Throughout my time there, I saw my friends learn about Judaism. I saw other counselors learn about their identities and communities. I sat through training on how to welcome campers and foster spaces



of true belonging for all campers, including one on how to congratulate and then support campers when they came out and were ready to let the world know who they were.

This supportive and loving environment gave me the courage as a young adult to come out.

It was 2019 and I was twenty-two years old. I was at a camp counselor training week for the second time as a senior fellow, and my sister, Robin Jennie Kohnhorst was also there attending a different program. We were sitting on the bus on our way to the airport after experiencing an eye-opening week full of learning, friendship, and dreaming, and I came out to her. She was the most supportive sister and friend at that moment. She helped me navigate how to come out to my parents and how to continue learning about myself and opening up as we entered the eight weeks at GFC together.

In my family, love was paramount. I knew that they would embrace me no matter who I was or whom I loved. After coming out to her, my mother helped me come out to my grandmother, who responded with, "As long as you are happy Rachel, I am happy." This reaffirmed my own view of my family. My eighty-year-old grandmother had no qualm or question about my identity. She accepted my new identity immediately. My grandmother had been

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Lesbian, Texan, Jew, continued from page 8

through a lot in her life, and through self-determination and tenacity, never stopped; this character trait that I admire so much in her only fueled my desire to be my true self and live authentically.

By 2022, I had joined the GFC full-time team. I was the Assistant Director of Family Retreats and Staff Engagement. I ran staff week, and I was able to use some generous grant money to bring in Keshet professionals to teach my staff about LGBTQ+ belonging at Jewish overnight summer camp. I also joined Keshet's year-long learning cohort, Shivon: Keshet's Equality Project, and was able to help my camp continue growing into a more welcoming place for all campers and staff, but with a specific eye toward LGBTQ+ belonging. I learned best practices from field leaders, I learned what other camps were doing successfully, and I learned how to navigate pushback. Lastly, just last summer I, along with an amazing team, helped GFC facilitate Camping Out, a Keshet built, but internally facilitated LGBTQ+ inclusion camp workshop. We used real GFC examples to think about times when camp truly fostered belonging, and we used real GFC examples to discuss and change times where, intentionally or

unintentionally, camp singled people out and made them feel out of place.

In June of 2023, I joined the Keshet team. Over these past eleven months I have really been able to come into my own sense of self as an educator and as a lesbian, a Texan, and a Jew, supporting Jewish organizations as they learn how to better be welcoming to all. And that ties back to my family.

This upcoming June, I will be giving a *D'var Torah* at my childhood synagogue, Congregation Beth Shalom of The Woodlands. My parents and my wife have that Friday night blocked off on their calendar. I am bringing a part of me that was hidden away from my community ten-plus years ago out to my home synagogue.

You too have the chance to be a part of someone's pride story this June or August. Our many cities in Texas have different dates for celebrating LGBTQ+ Pride, and this is by no means a full list of all the different events that you can be a part of this summer. I encourage you to participate in Pride in your hometown this year, and who knows, by Pride 2025, we all may live in a more equitable and loving world full of belonging. From this magazine to G-d's ear, *Ken Yehia Ratzon* (May it be G-d's Will).

Nancy Katz Receives \$2,500 Grant from TJHS

by Davie Lou Solka

The Texas Jewish Historical Society awarded a \$2500 grant to Nancy Katz of Spring, Texas. The grant will aid Nancy in conducting research in the Rio Grande Valley regarding Crypto-Jewish families. Building on the work done by grant recipient, Jillian Glantz, she will question this group of people regarding why they went to New Spain and how this decision impacts their descendants today.



Pride Events 2024 June

June 1 Corpus Christi Rainbow 5K

June 1 Pride Path Denton

June 1 - 2 - Dallas Pride

June 5 - July 14 Corpus Christi

Museum of Science and

History Badge of Pride Exhibit

June 7 Congregation Beth Shalom

of the Woodlands Pride

Shabbat

June 8 Night Out Denton Pride

June 15 Trinity Community Pride

Fest on Magnolia Green in Fort

Worth

June 16 Temple Emanu-El Dallas

LGBTQ+ Pool Party

June 21 Houston Annual Pride

Shabbat at Beth Yeshurun

June 22 New Faces of Pride

Houston

June 22 Lubbock Pride Fest

June 28 Temple Emanu-El Dallas

Pride Shabbat

June 29 46th Annual Houston

Pride

June 29 San Antonio 2024 Pride

"Bigger Than" Texas

June 29 El Paso's 19th Annual

Pride Parade

June 29 Big Pride in Lil D

(Denton)

August

August 9 Pride Shabbat at Temple

Beth Shalom Austin

August 10 Austin Pride

August 30 - September 1

Galveston Pride

September

September 19 Queer Magic the

Gathering Night in Austin

September 21 Queer Crafternoon

in San Antonio

October

October 12 Come as you are

Plano Pride Festival

Speaker's Bureau by Jan Siegel Hart

Recently I received an email through the Texas Jewish Historical Society website to Speaker's Bureau. It was from a teacher at the Austin Jewish Academy. She asked for someone to speak on Texas Jewish History, since she is not from Texas. Her fourth-grade class had read *Hanna, The Immigrant*, and is currently reading *The Many Adventures of Minnie*. She had no idea that she had contacted the author of those books!

I was so delighted to hear that her students loved the books, and I agreed to bring my one-woman show, "Hanna the Immigrant" to the school. A week later I met with forty third and fourth graders. The fourth graders were excited to meet the author and participated in the discussion after the performance. The third graders were told they could look forward to reading the books next year. 🇺🇸



Jan Siegel Hart as her grandmother, Hannah.

Real Places Conference by Davie Lou Solka

In early April, the Friends of the Texas Historical Commission and the Texas Historical Commission held a meeting in Austin, and TJHS President, Joan Linares, and David Moore, TJHS member and founder HHM; Associates, Inc., presented a program on how to research a building for the National Register of Historic Places. K'Nesseth Israel Synagogue in Baytown was the example that was given when a program was initiated to save the building from damages incurred by Hurricane Harvey. The program noted the work and influence of architect, Lenard Gabert, of Houston. K'Nesseth Israel Synagogue received the designation of Historic Place in February, 2024. 🇺🇸

Rabbi Jimmy Kessler Educational Outreach Fund Contributions

The following donations have been received in the Rabbi Jimmy Kessler Educational Outreach Fund:

Gold

Harris & Eliza Kempner Fund

Silver

Shelley Kessler

Alumni of the University of Texas Rho Chapter of Tau Delta Phi Fraternity

Sapphire

Mark Bierner

Ruby

Dr. H. Leonard Bentsch

Jane Manaster

Norma A. Schlinger Philanthropic Fund/Paula Schlinger, Henry D. Schlinger, Jr., and Barney A. Schlinger

Diamond

Joyce Davidoff

Red & Julie Goldstein honoring Andy Goldstein who diligently carries on Texas Jewish Traditions for our family.

Robin & Bennett Greenspan

Sandra Horwitz

Jenne Kessler & Nicholas Bius

Rabbi Peter Kessler

Ivan Koop Kuper in memory of Julia & Lynn Schafer

Rusty Milstein in memory of Mitzi Milstein

Rabbi David & Marcie Rosen

Bill & Karen Rubinsky

Cecilia & George Shapiro

Rabbi Samuel & Lynn Stahl



David Moore discussing how to register a building on the National Register of Historic Places.

Texas Jewish History Roundtable

Annual Meeting of the Texas State Historical Association

by Hollace Weiner

The Texas Jewish Historical Society presented a lively, well-attended Texas Jewish History Roundtable on March 2, 2024, at the annual meeting of the Texas State Historical Association. The seminar, held on the Texas A&M campus in College Station, drew an audience of more than sixty-five participants on the final morning of the conference.

Dr. Scott Langston, TJHS board member from TCU, was chairman. Panelists were TJHS board member, author, and archivist, Hollace Weiner; TJHS board member, Dr. Denise Joseph, a scholar of the Spanish history of Texas, Mexican American history,

and the Brownsville Jewish community; Rabbi David Lipper of Temple Sinai, Houston; and attorney, Eric Lipper. The Lipper brothers have been in Texas for a remarkable five generations.

Discussions by the panelists included “The Arc of Jewish Participation in Texas,” “Rabbis as Ethnic Brokers, Leaders Innovators, and Agents of Social Justice,” “From Peddler to Prominence: Entrepreneurs and Philanthropists,” and, last but certainly not least, “Incorporating Jewish History into the Teaching of Lone Star History.” 🇺🇸



Rabbi David Lipper, Temple Sinai, Houston; Hollace Weiner; Eric Lipper.



Hollace Weiner & Claudia Anderson retired archivist LBJ Library.



Panel Chair Dr. Scott Langston, TCU; TJHS President Joan Linares and Ruben Linares.

Contributions

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

- Stanley Horn in honor of Susan Septimus
- Marilyn Jorrie
- Joan & Ruben Linares in support of the 45th Annual Gathering
- Marilyn Lippman in celebration of the 45th Annual Gathering

Save the Date

July 27-28, 2024

TJHS Board Meeting, Round Rock, Texas

The deadline for the May 2024 TJHS Magazine is Friday, July 19.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

Ima Joy's Waco in Photographs

by Vickie Vogel

This column is based on information available in the TJHS archives, supplemented by some online research. If you have corrections or additions to this information, please submit them in writing to the TJHS editor at editor@txjhs.org. We want the TJHS archives to be as complete and accurate as possible.

It sometimes happens that while looking for one thing, I'm distracted by a shiny object and go off on a tangent. That happened with Box 2017-320/1¹ in our archives when I was looking for information about one person and discovered a treasure trove

assembled by Ima Joy Gandler about Waco. Gandler served as the TJHS Archivist from 1990 to 2010 except for 1998-2000 when she served as Third Vice President. She died in January, 2010² after a lifetime of service to the Waco Jewish Community, such as chairing the 1985 Waco Jewish Federation Texas Desquicentennial Committee for 1986. She and Vernon Woolf produced a video, *The History of the Jewish Community in Waco, Texas 1848-1986* which was delivered at our 13th Annual Gathering in 1993 in San Antonio.³

Ima Joy deposited a mass of photographs in this box, many meticulously labeled. Along with the photographs, she assembled a list of Sisterhood Presidents, Congregation Presidents, and rabbis of Rodef Sholom in Waco.⁴ There is a list of confirmation classes from 1893-1979 and 1979-1984, a list of Stanley David Levy Memorial Award winners 1961-1982, and a Yizkor service list from 2002 of about fifty pages. There is a

map of Hebrew Rest Cemetery with all the plots labeled, a certificate honoring Joe H. Lewis from the Texas State Technical Institute in 1977, and the Rodef Sholom Endowment Trust papers (1989). Waco Heritage & History, Winter 1982, Volume 13, No. 4 highlights the Jewish Community in early Waco.

Each of us could be inspired to document our own community history with the detailed care that Ima Joy did for Waco. When you give photos to our current archivist, Sally Drayer, be sure they are labeled and dated as best you can. You can write the names on the back in pencil or an archival pen, which won't show through on the front, or you could photocopy the picture and write directly on the photocopy. Just be sure the photocopy stays with the original, perhaps in the frame if it is framed, or with the photo if you are putting it in our archives.

You never know what treasures you may find by exploring our archives!

(Editor's note: If you can identify any of the persons, places, or dates in these photographs, please contact editor@txjhs.org)

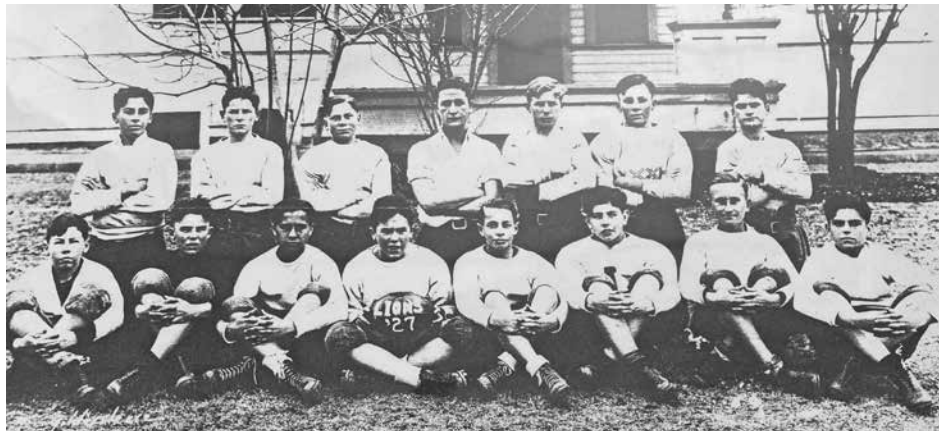
Endnotes

- ¹ Box 2017-320/1 Texas Jewish Historical Society Collection, Briscoe Center for American History, University of Texas at Austin. This is an offsite box, so if you want to visit it, make an appointment a few days before so they can retrieve it.
- ² *TJHS Magazine*, February 2010, p. 8.
- ³ *TJHS Magazine*, Spring 1993
- ⁴ The first woman president was in 1979, "Mrs. Milton" (Nettie Stern) Spark. The next woman president was in 1995. The list ends in 2001.

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Waco Teenagers – early 1950s.



Above: Bernard Rappaport, Welfare Fund Campaign, Jewish Welfare Council, Waco, undated. Above, Right - 1927 Lions 105 lb. State Football Champions. (photo taken at Alex Sander's home, 1822 Washington).



Top Row: Philip A. Sander, Robert Witt, Walter Meyers, Dan Wise, Coach Edward Chabers, Allen Boone, and Ed Walsh. Front Row: Harvey Penland, Bristow, Mert Colgin, Bill Moddy, Melvin Lipsitz, Arnold Friedkin, Charlie McCleary, and John McNamara, Jr.
Not pictured: Leonard Garin and Eugene Sanger.

Left: Women's Division Luncheon – Mrs. M. Lawrence, Mrs. L. Aronson, Mrs. M. Watman, Yehuda Hellman, W.W. Naman, Mrs. E. Levy, Mrs. R. Levy.



Israel Rally – Rabbi Straus, Alisa Penneli, Leon Lebowitz, B.H. Green, Yehuda Koppel, Mayor Hawkins.



Circa 1940 - Rabbi Wolfe Macht, Evelyn Macht, Myron Macht; Seated Mrs. Liebschuetz (Mrs. Macht's mother.)

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Every Girl performed at Temple Rodef Shalom on Washington Street, 1922, directed by Lenore Goldstein. Back Row – Annie Epstein, Lena Aronson (Lynn), Goldie Levenson (Solomon), Sara Meinstein, Rose (Adolph) Beerman (Miller), Glenn Jacobs (Epstein), Bloomie Kaplan (Rosen), Sadie Jack (Levy), Janet Marks (Teter), Helen Marks (Fred) ? Bloominthal, Rose Genecov (Ellis), Frances Meinstein, Josephine Esserman (Ringold), Leah Freedman. Sitting on floor: Sadie Kaplan (Gilbert), Yetta Rosenberg, Marie Adams (Genecov), Hennie Genecov, Beckie Rosenberg, Ida Brickman. We think names in parentheses are married names added by Ima Joy.



Undated. Ben H. Green, Mrs. Philip A. (Margorie Roddy) Sanger, Rabbi Hyman J. Schachtel, Houston.



Standing – Cy & Mrs. Kosberg; Elehugh & Mrs. Levy, Mrs & Mr. Nate Chodorow, B.B. & Mrs. Green, and Leon Collins. Seated – Edward Fred, Cecil Brown, Pat & Mrs. Taggart, Leon & Mrs. Lebowitz, and Jack Kravitz.

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Men's Division Officers – Nate Chodorow, Leon Collins, Bartley Crum, and Edward Fred.



Cecil Brown & Nate Chodorow at Community Dinner.

Early 1950s in gymnasium

of Congregation Agudath Jacob at No. 15th & Jefferson, Waco. Standing: Frank Israel, Elmer & Naomi Smith, Leon & Cecile Aronson, Helen & Izie Fred, Fannie & Phil Smith, Ruth & Abe Jacobs, Frank Chazanow. Sitting: Minnie Fink, Houston; Philip & Ruby Lee Markman, Valley Mills; Frances & Hymie Novy; Harry & Edith Siegel; Sam and Minnie Aronson.



TJHS meeting, in Jefferson, TX, 1989. Fourth Row (second from top)- Maurice Hoffman, Merilee Weiner, and Gertrude Teter. Third Row – (in black blouse) Minnie Siegel. Second Row – 3rd from left – Ima Joy Gandler, ?, Jan Siegel Hart, and Kathy Hart. First Row – 5th from left – Ginger Jacobs.

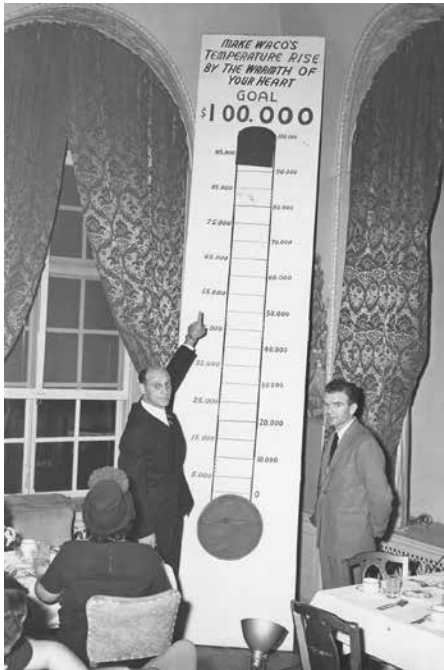


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In Memoriam

*May her memory
be a blessing.*

Celine Seligman Kaplan, TJHS member, died November 24, 2023, in Houston. She is survived by her children, Lee (Diana Hudson) Kaplan, David (Barbara) Kaplan, Jay (Carolyn) Kaplan, Nanette (Barry) Putterman; nine grandchildren and spouses, and six great-grandchildren.



Community Dinner showing goal for Campaign – Elehugh Levy & Hugh McDonald.



Women's Division Officers – Bartley Crum, Mr. M. Lawrence, Mrs. P. Sanger, Mrs. M. Wolf, Mrs. M. Fred.

Gabrielle Lyle is Presented the Lynna Kay Shuffield Memorial Award by **Davie Lou Solka**

Gabrielle Lyle was presented the Lynna Kay Shuffield Memorial Award at the annual meeting of the Texas State Historical Association in March 2024, in College Station, Texas. Lyle's work was "Hebrew in Harlingen: An Examination of the Jewish Community in the Rio Grande Valley." This award is presented in memory of TJHS member, Lynna Kay Shuffield, a lay historian, who appreciated the work and passion it takes to preserve Texas History.

The Texas Jewish Historical Society, in conjunction with the Texas State Historical Association, presents the award annually to a graduate student or lay historian who has created a work in Texas Jewish history. This work can include published books,



Ruben & Joan Linares, Gabrielle Lyle, Anita Feigenbaum.

chapters in published books, articles published in scholarly journals, and post-graduate theses or dissertations. Eligible works will have been created

within the previous three years. More submission details are available on the Texas State Historical Association website at tshaonline.org.

Meet Your Board

Joan Teter Linares is a retired elementary teacher who taught for thirty-two years at Harlem Elementary School in Baytown, Texas. Joan grew up in Baytown and learned about Texas Jewish Historical Society from her parents, Don, who is a past President, and Gertrude Teter. She is President of Congregation K'Nesseth Israel in Baytown and treasurer of the Baytown Chapter of Hadassah.



She and her husband, Ruben, have three daughters, one son, and nine grandchildren. Joan is serving as President of TJHS.



Susan Goodman Novick is a fourth-generation El Pasoan, and has written several books and articles about El Paso families. She holds a Master of Library Science degree from The Catholic University of America, a Master of Public Affairs degree from The University of Texas/Austin, and an A.B. in History from Smith

College. She is a Certified Archivist who works with individuals, organizations, and businesses to find, save, understand, and explain their history. She and her husband, David, are active members of Temple Mount Sinai in El Paso. Susan serves as first vice president of TJHS.



Dolly Moskowitz Golden grew up in Baytown, Texas. She married Ed Golden from Corsicana and they settled in Austin, where she now lives. Ed passed away in 2018. Dolly is a Certified Travel Counselor. She has visited two hundred sixteen countries and plans to visit the rest. She has two children, and one granddaughter

who live in Austin.

Jules Dorfman Frapart, second vice president, was born in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, and grew up in Brownsville surfing, playing music, and working in the family business. He attended the University of Texas/Austin, where he met and married his wife, Phyllis (Goldstein). They returned



to Brownsville where they opened and ran a jewelry store and a children's clothing store for twenty years. He completed his bachelor's degree from University of Texas/Brownsville, and was the textbook manager for UT/Brownsville for fifteen years. Jules taught middle school for Brownsville ISD for five years and has sold insurance policies for New York Life Insurance Company after completing his insurance certification. Jules has been active in the Jewish community of Brownsville, and is involved with the Masonic Fraternity. He was recently accepted to membership in the Sons of the Republic of Texas. He belongs to the Chais of Texas, a Jewish Motorcycle Alliance, Texas Club, and before COVID, he made several trips a year on his motorcycle with the Free Masons Riding Club. He and Phyllis have two daughters and four grandchildren. Jules is now retired and enjoying life. He and Phyllis recently moved to Austin after forty-eight years in Brownsville.

Amy Milstein, third vice president, is from Frisco, and grew up in Longview. She graduated from the University of Texas/Austin. She has been teaching for twenty-five years—English for fifteen and now she teaches electives. Amy loves to travel and has taken several trips with TJHS. In her spare time, she likes to scrapbook, read and attend movies. She has been involved with TJHS for many years and is the daughter of Past President Rusty Milstein.



Ben Rosenberg, Treasurer, was born and grew up in El Paso. He attended the University of Texas/Austin, and graduated with a B.B.A. in accounting in 1967. After graduation he moved to Houston and joined a CPA firm until his retirement in 2015. Ben is a past chairman of the Houston Jewish Community Foundation, and serves on the board of other charitable organizations based in Houston. He is married to Barbara, Past President of TJHS. They enjoy



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traveling when they can. They have a daughter and two grandsons living in Boulder, Colorado.

Bonnie Cohen was born in Baytown, Texas, and graduated from Lee College with an A.A. in education and from Lamar University with a bachelor's in home economics. She owned Incredible Edibles by Bonnie for four years, was a stay-at-home Mom for many years, and registrar for an elementary school. She retired in February, 2024 to become a full-time grandma. She is married to David Cohen.



Jeff Levine was born in Houston but has recently returned to Texas. He spent much of his life up north, but had the opportunity to return to Texas in 2017. He and his wife, Gail, have two sons who both live in Los Angeles, California. Jeff and Gail are musicians and enjoy fitness and the outdoors. Jeff is a retired IBM marketing manager.



Howard "Rusty" Milstein was born in Longview and still lives there. He is retired from Industrial Steel Warehouse. Rusty is a retired state level soccer referee; administrator, treasurer, lay-leader, and schlepper for Temple Emanu-El in Longview; and has performed in a community theatre production of *Fiddler on the Roof*. He and his deceased wife, Mitzi are the

main reason there is still a congregation in Longview. They have three children, Randy, Jeff and Amy. Rusty attended the University of Texas, Austin, and was a member of Phi Sigma Delta Fraternity. He was president of TJHS 2010-2012.

Barbara Green Stone, Membership Chair, is a fourth generation Texan, who was born in Dallas and grew up in



Lafayette, Louisiana, and Dallas. She earned a B.S. in Medical Technology from the University of Texas/Austin, where she met her Houston-born husband, Edward. They have two sons and one granddaughter. Barbara is a longtime volunteer with Temple Emanu-El Women of Reform Judaism in Dallas. Her hobbies include photography, crocheting

for donation, reading, travel, and genealogy (including prior to the internet).

John P. Campbell, Recording Secretary and Chair of the Website/Technology Committee, lives in Austin. He received a B.A. from Tulane University and a M.P.A. from the LBJ School at UT-Austin. 1984-1986 he was on the staff of the Texas Select Committee on Higher Education. 1987-2004 he was a staff member of the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, DC. In 2005 he became the Executive Director of the Inter-Academy Council in Amsterdam, Netherlands. He retired from this position in 2014.



Kathy Cornelison Kravitz grew up in Oklahoma City, but now lives in Austin. After graduating from the University of Oklahoma, she taught high school biology and geometry. She did graduate work in botany, then was a Peace Corps volunteer in Colombia. She met her husband, Bruce, while working for AT&T/Western Electric as a statistical quality control engineer. They moved to New Zealand,

where she was the quality manager for Mitel Telecommunications NZ. Their son, Scott, was born there. In 1991, they moved to Austin, where she has worked a variety of jobs, including assistant librarian for AISD, and volunteering

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Meet Your Board, continued from page 18

for numerous organizations. Kathy currently spends most of her days working on TJHS Cemetery Committee needs, although she continues to volunteer for other organizations and tries to find time to “play” in her garden, walk in nature and occasionally travel to new places. Kathy is Chair of the Cemetery Research Committee.

Lynda F. Furgatch was raised in Abilene and now lives in



Brownsville. She participated in TOFTY (now NFTY-TOR). She is married to Michael Furgatch, who is also a TJHS Board Member, and they have two children and three grandchildren. Her many activities include Sisterhood President, member of Hadassah, President of Valley Baptist Auxiliary volunteers, and helps co-

ordinate Temple social activities. She lived in Puerto Rico for eight months before the hurricane. Lynda has been a TV and radio spokesperson and has been in commercials since 1975. She has worked in customer service for Ford for twenty-three years and enjoys cooking, exercising, and reading. Currently she helps produce and direct corporate videos and is semi-retired. Lynda is one of the Tri-Chair Committee for Programming Meetings.



Vickie Vogel lives in Austin and is a Past President of TJHS (2006-2008). She has visited all seven continents and all fifty states. She is a retired attorney who practiced primarily criminal law. Vickie is a member of the Texas delegation of the Democratic National Committee. She enjoys travel, needlework, and reading, and is Parliamentarian.



Ruth Nathan from Houston, served as treasurer of the Texas Jewish Historical Society for many years. Ruth is the past assistant director of the Jewish Community Center in Houston. She has a MA in Speech Pathology and a MA in Social Work. Ruth teaches a social skills program – “Skills for Success.” She is a docent at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston.

Letter to the Editor

Howdy and thank you!

On behalf of the students of Hillel at Texas A&M, we wish to thank you for your gift we received on April 16, 2024, which includes 40 [copies] of [the] DeSola Pool (1943) *Haggadah of Passover for Members of the Armed Forces*, New York, Jewish Welfare Board. If not for your in-kind donations we would have spent \$2,000 to purchase these items. We appreciate your investment in the future of the Jewish community. Our ability to serve our Jewish students is only possible through the generosity of people like you.

We thank you for your help in keeping our Hillel building open and our programs going. We appreciate your continued support! Again, our sincere thanks.

Sincerely,
Risa Berman
Executive Director
Hillel Texas A&M University

**Committee Chairs
2024-2025**

<i>Awards</i>	Shana Bauman
<i>Cemetery</i>	Rusty Milstein
<i>Cemetery Research</i>	Kathy Kravitz
<i>Dolph Briscoe Center for American History</i>	Davie Lou Solka
<i>Finance</i>	Ben Rosenberg
<i>Grants</i>	Jane Manaster
<i>Kessler Fund</i>	Sheldon Lippman
<i>Legal</i>	Lonnie Schooler
<i>Meetings</i>	Lynda Furgatch, Marilyn Lippman
<i>Membership</i>	Barbara Green Stone
<i>Nominations</i>	Sheldon Lippman
<i>The TJHS Magazine/Publicity</i>	Davie Lou Solka
<i>Publicity</i>	Sheldon Lippman
<i>Speaker's Bureau</i>	Gayle Cannon & Jan Siegel Hart
<i>Photo Exhibit</i>	Dolly Golden
<i>Website/Technology</i>	John Campbell



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 Awards Committee will be presented at TJHS Spring Annual Gathering. Applications must be received by July 15, 2024 and mailed to Awards Chair, Texas Jewish Historical Society, P. O. Box 10193, Austin, TX 78766-0193 or awardchair@txjhs.org.

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: Awards Chair, Texas Jewish Historical Society,
P. O. Box 10193, Austin, TX 78766-0193 or awardchair@txjhs.org.*

txjhs.org



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.
On the form below or online, please show how your project meets our mission.

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 or go to www.txjhs.org and click on "Apply for a Grant" at the top of the page.



Rabbi Jimmy Kessler Educational Outreach Fund

Early in his rabbinical education and career, Rabbi Kessler lamented the absence of significant records of the Texas Jewish experience in local, state, and university libraries. His frustration turned to action when in 1980 in San Antonio he organized a meeting of like-minded Texans for what became the Texas Jewish Historical Society.

TJHS continues to expand and share the understanding of the Jewish presence in Texas through education and outreach.

The Kessler Fund is an inducement to share the incredible history of Jews in Texas with a broader community through an ever-expanding scope of projects such as invitations to renowned speakers to the TJHS Annual Gatherings, research grants to university students in Jewish studies, partnering with other organizations to expand educational programs for young people, piquing the interests of people from all religions to the richness of Texas Jewish history, and more. This Fund is a long-term commitment to the legacy of Jimmy Kessler for which \$250,000 has been set as a launch goal.

TJHS appreciates all donations, at any level, to honor the legacy of Jimmy Kessler. The Texas Jewish Historical Society, Inc., is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Donations are tax deductible within limits of the law.

Suggested donation levels:

\$25,000 or above	Platinum
\$10,000 - 24,999	Gold
\$5,000 - 9,999	Silver
\$2,500 - 4,999	Sapphire
\$1,000 - 2,499	Ruby
\$18 - 999	Diamond

Date: _____

Donation Amount: \$ _____

Name of Donor(s): _____

- I give permission to use my name for publication in Kessler Fund Donor List.
- I prefer that my donation remains Anonymous.

Mailing Address of Donor(s): *(All contact information is required)*

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Option to honor or memorialize family member or friend with your Kessler Fund donation:

In honor / In memory of (Name): _____

Mailing address to send acknowledgment: _____

Please send this completed donation form, along with your bank check, to: Texas Jewish Historical Society, P. O. Box 10193, Austin, TX 78766-0193 or go to www.txjhs.org and click on "Give to Kessler Fund"

*Texas Jewish Historical Society, Inc. is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.
Contributions to TJHS are tax deductible within the limits of the law.*



TJHS Board of Trustees

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1st Vice President

Susan Goodman Novick (El Paso)

2nd Vice President

Jules Frapart (Austin)

3rd Vice President

Amy Milstein (Frisco)

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Parliamentarian

Vickie Vogel (Austin)

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(Living Past Presidents are members of the Board of Trustees, per our bylaws.)

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Susan Zack Lewis, Big Spring
(2019 - 2021)

Sheldon Lippman, Austin (2021 - 2023)

Howard "Rusty" Milstein, Longview
(2010-2012)

Barbara Rosenberg, Sugar Land
(1995 - 1998)

Lionel Schooler, Houston (1984 - 1986)

Davie Lou Solka, Corpus Christi/Austin
(2017 - 2019)

Vickie Vogel, LaGrange/Austin
(2006 - 2008)

Marc Wormser, Corpus Christi/Pearland
(2012 - 2014)

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TJHS Photo Exhibits

The Texas Jewish Historical Society has three museum quality photo exhibits, with explanations depicting early Jewish life and contributions. The 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 txjhs_exhibits@txjhs.org.

Texas Jewish Historical Society

P. O. Box 10193
Austin, Texas 78766-0193
www.txjhs.org

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The Texas Jewish Historical Society New Membership and Information Update Form



Date: _____

Check the Appropriate Box(es)

- New Member Membership Renewal Gift* Information Update

Category of Annual TJHS Membership

- \$18 Student Member \$100 Sponsor \$1,000 Patron
 \$35 Basic Member \$250 Sustaining Member
 \$50 Supporting Member \$500 Benefactor

Member #1 _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Member #2 (optional for couple) _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____

*If a gift, name of person(s) giving the Gift Membership: _____

Contributions to the TJHS are tax deductible within the limits of the law.

Please send this completed membership form along with a bank check to Texas Jewish Historical Society, P. O. Box 10193, Austin, TX 78766-0193. You can also visit txjhs.org/membership.