



Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association NEWSLETTER

Volume XXIII, Number 2

September, 2010

Presidents Message

By David H. Leach

If you are anything like me, and I don't assume that, you sense that Summer is coming to an end. Back to school sales have started. The Jewish calendars have arrived. The days are getting shorter. Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and Sukkot are just around the corner. We, all, are greeting each other with "the Jewish Holidays are really early this year". First Labor Day and then shul. Too early for the warm Fall wardrobe but too late for the Summer colors.

Through the kind offices of board member Ruth Breindel, Anne has had the help of a wonderful summer intern. Sarah Lindblom will be a junior at Smith College this year. Anne will be sorry to see her go. She reorganized the whole filing system among other projects. Ruth and Sarah also plotted out and recorded the Jewish graves at the Moshassuck cemetery in Central Falls. Our hardy thanks to Sarah and we wish her well as she goes back to college.

Ruth Breindel was active this summer. She gave a well-attended talk to the Temple Emanu El Leisure Club recently on the Jewish Orphanage of Rhode Island which has morphed into what we now know as Camp JORI. And you wondered where that name came from. We hope that she will reprise her presentation with the BJE Renaissance program this Fall. Not only was it well attended but also well received. Just ask me, Anne and past president and first lady, Steve and Susan Brown. We enjoyed it.

Also, a special thanks to our newsletter editor, Ken Abrams. If the name sounds familiar, he is the son of past president Stan Abrams. He fits us in around his teaching responsibilities and we thank him. Earlier this month RIHJA member, Herb Meister, after having done research at the Redwood Library in Newport on Touro Synagogue was invited to give a report to its members. Good work, Herb.

Brian Jones, former Providence Journal reporter, has been a constant visitor as he completes a long awaited history of Miriam Hospital, a lot of it based on material and photographs from our archives.

Hopefully, you have been seeing and reading the pieces on Rhode Island Jewish history that have been appearing in the Jewish Voice & Herald. Thank you to Executive Editor, Nancy Kirsch for publishing these works by RIJHA members and from our collections. Thanks also to Jerry Foster for her columns on Rhode Island Jewish history which have appeared in the Jewish Voice & Herald.

Dr. Edward L. Witmer is our speaker for the Fall meeting. Thanks to the program committee for planning this event. Articles are coming in and being reviewed and edited by the committee and editor George Goodwin for the NOTES. Something to look forward to for Spring.

I would be remiss if I didn't make a pitch for dues and donations. Please send in your dues when you get the letter and the enclosed dues envelope. Save me from having to write a second letter. And please encourage your friends to become members by spreading the word about the NOTES, the RIHJA collection available for research, and our speaking programs. You will note that Anne has detailed various donations to our collection received since the last newsletter. Keep the RJHA in mind when you clean out your cellar, attic or garage or that of a loved one or an organization you may belong to.

A Happy and Healthy New Year to one and all.

SAVE THE DATE MID YEAR MEETING

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2010

TEMPLE BETH EL

2:00 PM

SPEAKER: Dr. Edward L. Widmer
TOPIC: Jewish and Other Dimensions of the
John Carter Brown Library

IN OUR OFFICE AND ARCHIVES

By Anne Sherman

The RIJHA office is always busy. We have received numerous requests for the article that Beryl Segal wrote in 1974 "Orinin, My Shtetl in the Ukraine". Families doing genealogy discover that their relatives came from Orinin, and they want to know what life was like in the shtetl. There are also always requests for articles from the NOTES. Requested since the last newsletter: Woonsocket, the car dealers, Jewish Athletes Hall of Fame and photos used in three articles.

A teacher from Foxborough Regional Charter School needed information on Joseph Jagolinzer, the artist and stamp designer, for a class she was teaching. David Kelman was looking for information on the stained glass windows at Temple Emanu-El, and asked about photos his father, Fred Kelman, had taken of the stained glass windows at Temple Beth Israel. Morris Kortick came into the office looking for photos of Benjamin Brier and Archibald Silverman for a talk he was giving on the jewelry industry. Jeff Brier needed a picture of the Brier Manufacturing building at 222 Richmond St and knew we would have it.

Mel Zurier spoke at Temple Beth El in Fall River and Ruth Breindel spoke at the Leisure Club at Temple Emanu-El. We frequently get requests for speakers. If anyone is interested in becoming a speaker for RIJHA, please contact me.

Richard Coren has traced the Kornebaum Family Tree in two volumes - one a pictorial and the other the tree itself. This magnificent work is the most complete genealogy that has ever come in to the office.

A photo album belonging to Meyer Tannenbaum (Superior Glass) was delivered to the office. Among the photos were two pictures of the North End Dispensary. Since we never had any pictures of the Dispensary in our collection, this was truly a great find.

Sanford Gorodetsky donated photos and articles about his father, Louis, the first Jewish fireman. Maraarita Manaysky brought in two Russian documents from her father, Boris Efes, whose picture we used in our pictorial book "The Jews of Rhode Island 1658-1958." We received two class pictures from Jack Winkelman - Nathan Bishop Jr. High Class of June 1952 and Candice Street Grammar School January 1923. Zelda Banks Feldman, sister of the late Sgt. Hyman Banks, brought in the last three letters he wrote to his mother and the telegram she received notifying her of his death during World War II.

The National Council of Jewish Women is always adding to their collection. The latest material relates to their 100th anniversary. Milton Lewis is always thinking of RIJHA when he goes to flea markets or yard sales. Any time he finds anything relating to Rhode Island Jewish history, he buys it and brings it into the office. Ruth Fishbein Salkin

gave us an album containing sermons and articles written by Rabbi Joel Zaiman of Temple Emanu-El.

I would like to thank Richard Israel for thinking of us when he moved. We received press clipping from 1971 to 1974, photos, his license plate, and three boxes of his written decisions while judge of the Superior Court from 1985 to 2000. M. Charles Bakst also thought of us while getting ready to move. He gave us material on Temple Beth El in Fall River that included books on the 10th, 25th, 50th and 75th anniversary of the Temple and memorabilia from his Sunday School days. He also gave us material on his days at Camp Tel Noar in New Hampshire.

The articles in our NOTES, the photographs in our collection and the material in our archives are being used continuously. Help us add to our important resources.

George M. and George G.

By Mike Fink

All those patriotic, flag-waving songs we learned in public school glee clubs were composed and written by the Fourth of July birthday boy, George M. Cohan. The celebrations of Americans in Paris and the richness of our various sounds and rhythms were created by another George-- Gershwin-- also a familiar face in Rhode Island.

On July 3, 2010, I too got named George when I received Providence's second annual George M. Cohan Award. I had to make a speech, and the mayor bestowed a medal with a red, white, and blue ribbon. "You're like a character from the *Wizard of Oz*," said my wife with a mix of admiration and irony. I tried to explain to the audience just how deeply those of my generation took the pledges and promises of the old songs - all of them - presented by the stars of radio and in USO concerts during World War II.

George M. was born at our immigrant shoreline, near Wickenden Street, but he left. And then came back. George G. visited right here in Narragansett, at the height of his Broadway hits, to visit Jascha Heifetz, who thought that America was Rhode Island. Heifetz bought his first backyard right here by the Pier. You went to New York in quest of the big time, but you settled back in Rhode Island.

I heard the gentle song of the piping plover this morning. I listened, in my garden, to the great lyrical plaint of the mourning dove. I like to think that my George Award will keep me close to the music of the spheres, the creatures who teach us the melody of the earth and sky. I also hope that the composers from here, there, and everywhere will find the beauty of our language and the rhythms of our times and tides.

NEW RIJHA MEMBERS

Edward Gordon, Aaron Hurwitz, Susan and Louis Kirschenbaum, Morris Kortick, Freda Lehrer, Kenneth Sacks and Jane Kaufman, Lee Teverow, Beth and Stanley Weiss, Temple Beth El - Fall River, MA

Coming Soon: New Issue of *The Notes*

By George M. Goodwin, Editor

Readers of our journal will, once again, enjoy many treats. I do not want to reveal all of the new issue's secrets, but allow me to tempt you. For example, in response to several letters to the editor in *The Jewish Voice & Herald*, there will be three articles about Willard Avenue and South Providence. Two are fond reminiscences by men who grew up there during the 1930s. Fortunately, Irene Backalenick, another child of South Providence, has written the second installment of her memoirs.

Four articles will celebrate the arts. Two will consider music, and a third will focus on a painting in the RISD Museum. The issue's photo essay, drawn from the Association's splendid archives, will showcase music, dance, and theatre.

Still another article has a musical tone. It recreates a seven-year-old's impressions of summer vacations spent in Rehoboth. The actual location of Klein's Farm can no longer be determined, however.

Additional articles will bear witness to World War II's hatreds and heroism. There will also be profiles of successful careers: one in business, another in law. A prominent woman rabbi will share her bittersweet memories of Pembroke and Brown during the late 1960s and early '70s.

Here's a simple but important idea for the New Year. Give a relative, a friend or a neighbor a membership in our beloved Association. Allow him or her to experience our writers' multifaceted insights and pleasures.

DONATIONS

From February 1 to July 31

IN MEMORY OF JACK FRADIN

Sandra & Stanley Abrams, Grace and Wesley Alpert, Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Bieder, Pat & Mel Blake, Susan & Stephen Brown, Roselea Cohn, Anita and Mike Fine, Janice & Harold Gadon, Maxine Goldin, Betsey & George Goodwin, Anne Krause, David H. Leach, Roslyn Markoff, Wilma & Morton Meyers, Charlotte Penn, Susette & Warren Rabinowitz, Barbara Rosen, Ruth Samdperil, Beverly & Morris Satloff, Lillian N. & Harold Schwartz, Anne & Gerald Sherman, Barbara and Philip Segal, Jerome Spunt, Erwin Summer, Arline and Eugene Weinberg, Janet & Melvin Zurier,

IN MEMORY OF IREENE OZER

Sandra & Stanley Abrams, Carol and Edwin Brooklyn, Maxine Goldin, Betsey & George Goodwin, Betty & Robert Kotlen, Roslyn Markoff, Lillian N. & Harold Schwartz, Anne & Gerald Sherman, Arline & Eugene Weinberg, Marlene & Bruce Wolpert, Janet & Melvin Zurier

IN MEMORY OF

Sheryl Bernstein
Richard Borod
Louis Brown
Aaron Cohen
Jack Feldman
Anne Garber
Lillian Gilstein
Edwin Greenfield
Ruth Grossman
Clinton Grossman
Bernard Harrison
Robert Hodosh
Lenore Howard
Everett Kagan
Everett Kagan
Lillian Koffler
Lillian Koffler
Sally and Sam Kravetz
Dr. Henry Litchman
Dr. Henry Litchman
Dr. Henry Litchman
Cori Maass
Aaron Nemtzw
Hope Prescott
Chaya Resnick
Chaya Resnick
Chaya Resnick
Chaya Resnick
Beverly Rosen
Mildred Samors
Pearl Shein
Pearl Shein
Rose and Fred Spigel
Harold David Sugerman

Marvin Tesler
Ruth Weinberg
Ruth Weinberg
Rochelle Wolf
Irving Wolpert
Oscar Zarchen
I. (Sonny) Zukroff

IN HONOR OF

Sandra & Stanley Abrams' 50th anniversary
Jeanne & George Feldman, Shirley Millen, Mathew Millen,
Reesa & Daniel Belin, Anne and Gerald Sherman

Susan Bazar elected Pres. of Jewish Seniors Beverly
& Banice Bazar
Buddy Frank's special birthday Beverly
& Banice Bazar

George Goodwin's honorary degree
Bobbie & Brian Friedman, David H. Leach, Charlotte
Penn, Anne & Gerald Sherman, Geraldine & Warren Foster
Judy Leavitt's recognition of volunteerism Anita &
Mike Fine

Julius Michaelson's Birthday Dr. Jason & Tovia
Siegel
Mollie Sandelowski's birthday Bernard Engel
Milton Stanzler's birthday Dr. Jason & Tovia Siegel

FROM

Beverly & Morris Satloff
Sandra & Stanley Abrams
Anne & Gerald Sherman
Dr. Larry & Duffy Page
Linda & Jack Winkleman
Beverly & Morris Satloff
Maxine Goldin
Gloria & Max Kolodoff
Beverly & Morris Satloff
Helen Grossman
Bernard Engel
Gloria & Max Kolodoff
Janice & Harold Gadon
Geraldine & Warren Foster
Beverly & Morris Satloff
Erwin Summer
Beverly & Morris Satloff
Dr. Barry Herman
Geraldine & Warren Foster
Arline & Eugene Weinberg
Betty & Robert Kotlen
Betsey & George Goodwin
Beverly & Morris Satloff
Dr. Larry & Duffy Page
Jacqueline Factor
Ruth Albert
Harriet Block
Nancy Shuster
Maxine Goldin
Beverly & Morris Satloff
Janice & Harold Gadon
Maxine Goldin
Mindy & Larry Levine
Robert & Marcia Woolf
Hicks
Arline & Eugene Weinberg
Anne & Gerald Sherman
David H. Leach
Susan & Stephen Brown
Beverly & Morris Satloff
Beverly & Morris Satloff
Bertha Goldberg

Evelyn & Philip Zinberg's 65th anniversary Jeanne &
George Feldman
Melvin Zurier's lecture Temple Beth El –
Fall River

Ruth & Irving Wolf, Bess Lindenbaum in appreciation of
the *Rhode Island Jewish Historical Notes*

SPEEDY RECOVERY FROM
Stanley Abrams Hope Mellion
Stephen Brown Arline & Eugene Weinberg
Stephen Brown Pat & Mel Blake
Marvin Tessler Betty & Robert Kotlen
Bruce Waldner Anne & Gerald Sherman

DONATIONS
David Coken, Arnold T and Alice Axelrod Galkin Fund,
Dr. and Mrs. Arvin Glicksman, Aaron Hurwitz, Allen
Polsby, Charles Reback, Frances Sadler, Harold A.
Winstead Charitable Foundation Trust,

RI JEWISH HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
130 Sessions St. Providence, RI 02906
NEWSLETTER
Phone and Fax (401) 331-1360
E-Mail: info@rijha.org
Web Site: www.rijha.org
President: Stephen M. Brown
Office Manager: Anne Sherman
Newsletter Editor: Ken Abrams
mrabrams@aol.com

Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association
130 Sessions Street
Providence, RI 02906

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
U. S.
Postage
P-A-I-D
Permit No. 1013
Providence, RI

