



RHODE ISLAND JEWISH HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

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Message from the President

So much has changed over this summer in our organization! First of all, Kate-Lynne Laroche, our secretary/office manager/organizer, is now coming in every day and keeping us all on task. She has been in charge of everything office related: mail, banking, phones, computers and more. With her help, we are gearing up for the big move.

The move to our beautifully designed new space will be done in two parts. The first part of the move will be the office; which will be in the week leading up to Rosh HaShannah – a wonderful way to celebrate the New Year! The second part will be the archives and library, we are having shelving made to make the best use of the space, as the ceiling is 11 feet high and we want to take advantage of the height to continue to build our collections. The second phase of the move will be completed at the end of October, at which time our new location will be fully operational, ready for research requests, visitors and much more. Finally, after everything is in its rightful place, and the office and archives are in great shape – those of you who have moved know how daunting a task this is – we will have an Open House party in December!

The new website is up and running. Please visit it and let us know your thoughts. We think that the new design will make it easier for you to find things that will help you with research or even donating money.

This fall, we will have two presentations; I will give you the outline here, as it will appear on our (new) website, in your invitation to the events, and in our Newsletter. First, chronologically, we are partnering with the Rhode Island Historical Society in their Foodways program, with a talk on Jewish food in Rhode Island: “Noshing Around Rhode Island.” This event on Tuesday, October 17, from 5:30-7 pm at Aldrich House (110 Benevolent Street, Providence, RI), is free. Please RSVP to this event by calling Jennifer Wilson at 401-273-7507 ext. 360. Our Fall Meeting will be at the main branch of the Cranston Public Library on Sunday, November 5. Shai Afsai will talk about Aliyah from Rhode Island. This will be a continuation of his article that appeared in the most recent Notes. Please look for a separate invitation with more specific information to follow.

Donations by you, our members, have made this move possible. We have had a wonderful gift by the Regensteiner Family Trust, which has boosted the Endowment and also given us a new name for the Office and Archive. Other donors have given most generously to name the Archives (in honor of Beryl & Chaya Segal); please look at the donor list in the Newsletter. It’s not too late to contribute – any gift of \$500 or more will be on our donor plaque in the office.

I hope that you will be able to come to all our events, to learn, enjoy and see your friends. Our goal, as always, is to serve you, our members, and the community at large.

Sincerely,

Ruth L. Breindel

President

Message from the Library & Archive

Hello again! As I am certain you are all aware, this is a very exciting and eventful time moment for the history of the Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association. So much is changing, happening, and continuing to happen – in many ways it feels as if we are in the midst of a new beginning for the Association.

The most dramatic and exciting development since the last newsletter is how far the construction of our new space within the JCC has progressed. It is the first time since the RIJHA moved into the then-Federation building in 1975 that we are moving our entire operations to a location specifically designed to fit our needs. Looking back into our history, it is not entirely clear to me as a researcher whether the two rooms that the Federation leaders provided for our first permanent home were customized, but that is certainly the case now. Our new centrally-located rooms will include custom 10ft tall bookcases for our ever-growing archive, and a beautiful and sensibly laid out front room with space for our office and multiple researchers. That front room will include a researcher corner with reliable internet access, as well as space for all of our technology needs (including plenty of space for our growing digital archival collection).

At the time of this writing, all major construction in the new space has been completed. The bookcases and lateral files in the back archival room are still under construction off-site, and will be installed in our space around the end of the Jewish holiday season. The current plan involves moving office operations to our new space earlier, but waiting to move the archival collection from our old location in the JCC Preschool until after the custom shelving has been installed. As always, we try to provide updates and pictures showing the process of the construction and move via our Facebook page. In addition, Kate-Lynne and I are always available to give a quick tour and update on the progress to anyone that visits us in the JCC.

Additionally, over the course of the High Holidays, the new website went “live.” It is still located at www.rijha.org, but it is completely redesigned based on comments and suggestions from our members. This is only the second redesign after the website was first started in 2006, and our old website was sorely in need of a facelift. The new website has been in-

process since last May, and I hope that you agree with me when I say that the new website is very sleek and user-friendly. Of course, like any new website, there may be a few small content or other issues to deal with short-term. I hope that you have patience with it as well as let the office know if you find an issue.

Just because the website and the new location have both been under construction doesn't mean that the Association has closed its doors. Far from it. Throughout the summer we have continued to help researchers, answer questions by phone or email, and plan for the two events in the Fall. The two events, one in October and another in November, should be extra special. Neither will be our traditional or standard fall event. In October, we will have representatives of multi-generational businesses in the Jewish food industry tell their stories. During this event at the Aldrich House, co-sponsored by the RI Historical Society, there will also be a display on the history of RI Jewish foods, which will include cookbooks, as well as an opportunity to taste many of the foods discussed in the stories. In November at the Fall Meeting, held at the Cranston Public Library main branch, there will be a panel discussion on recent Israeli immigrants (making Aliyah) from Rhode Island. This event will kick-off a month-long photography exhibit by our organization at the Cranston Public Library. As always, the Association continues to have an article about a fascinating aspect of local Jewish history in almost every issue of the Jewish Voice. Non-members contact the office all the time through various means with very positive feedback on all of the articles.

Lastly, in June, I had the pleasure of attending the Association of Jewish Libraries Conference in NYC. At that conference, along with learning quite a bit of best-practices from libraries across the globe, I also had a chance to meet representatives of many of our institutional members from around the world. All of them immediately recognized our Association, and spoke highly of the quality and the popularity of both our *Notes* and even our *Newsletter*. As the Jewish Voice would say, we are read.

Onwards and upwards,

Josh Jasper

Librarian/Archivist & Executive Director

Message from the Office

Hi, I'm Kate-Lynne Laroche, the new Office Manager here. These past four months, since being hired as Office Manager, have been full of learning, busyness and growth for me as well as this organization. We have launched a successful Capital Campaign, made leaps and bounds with the construction of our new space, all while continuing to hold meetings, plan events, and keep up with the general running of the office and library/archive.

Due to the construction and our rapidly approaching move, keeping up with movers, choosing office furniture, meeting with our space planner, and accepting donations, I am sure you can imagine that the move is finally beginning to feel very real. We are scheduled to officially be in our new space by October 27th, which is extremely exciting. Once we are settled in we will send out invitations to an open house and unveiling ceremony for you, the membership, to have the opportunity to see the beautiful new space your generous Capital Campaign donations helped to create.

In this Newsletter, you will also find that we are co-sponsoring two free events this Fall: Noshing around Rhode Island, a Jewish Foodways event, is being held at the Rhode Island Historical Society, and our annual Fall meeting which will be at the main branch of the Cranston Public Library.

These events, along with our big move, would not be possible without the constant support of our membership. I hope to get a chance to meet you at one or both of our Fall events, and if not, then at our future open house.

Sincerely,

Kate-Lynne Laroche

Office Manager

Upcoming Events



WHEN
Tuesday
October 17, 2017
5:30-7PM

WHERE
Aldrich House
110 Benevolent St.
Providence, RI

RSVP
programs@rihs.org
401-273-7507
x360

PRESENTED BY



RIJHS
THE RHODE ISLAND JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY
AN ASSOCIATION WITH THE CRANSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

On Tuesday, October 17th, from 5:30PM-7PM, join the RI Jewish Historical Association and the RI Historical Society for a Jewish food event with guest speakers Alisha Rudacevsky and Audra Mena of Rudy's Deli, Murray Kaplan of Rainbow Bakery, and Rabbi Raphie Schochet of Rhode Island Kosher, to learn about the history and stories of Jewish food in Rhode Island. Enjoy food from both Rudy's Deli and Rainbow Bakery as you learn about the families who began these institutions, as well as the difference between kosher and non-kosher foods with Rabbi Schochet.



The Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association

invites you to attend

Annual Fall Meeting

Sunday November 5th, 2017
2:00PM-4:00PM

Featuring:

Aliyah from Rhode Island: A Photo-Text Exhibit & Panel Discussion

Exhibit by Shai Afsai

Panel Moderated by Dr. Adam Myers

*With Speakers Shai Afsai, Dr. George Goodwin,
Rabbi Barry Dolinger & Miriam Abrams-Stark*

Cranston Public Library

140 Sockanosset Cross Road Cranston, RI 02920

Sponsored by the Rhode Island Council for the Humanities,
Congregation Beth Sholom, Cranston Public Library & RIJHA



Donations & New Members from May 2017 to September

New Members

Brandeis University & Wisconsin Historical Society

General Donations

Anonymous, Victor & Gussie Baxt Fund, Jeffrey & Barbara Brown, Rennie Brown, Dr. Joseph Chazan, Dr. Nathan Epstein, H. Jack Feibelman, Barbara & Walter Feldman, Donna & Harley Frank, Ruth Goldstein, Dorothy & Edwin Gozonsky, Jason Hockman, David Katzen, Richard Kumins, Brock & Jamie Manville, Jane S. Nelson, Warren & Susette Rabinowitz, Nancy Rachman, Myrna & Harris Rosen, Mark & Helaine Schupack, Myra Shays, Jonathan Wagner, Ellis & Deborah Waldman, and Ann M. Wilson

Capital Campaign

Our Capital Campaign has thus far been very successful, and will continue through the end of the year. We would like to recognize General Capital Campaign donations, donations from those of you who will be on our Donor Wall, and the donations at the Naming Opportunity Level.

Please feel free to contact Treasurer: David Bazar, President: Ruth Breindel, or the RIJHA office if you have any questions or would like more details about donating to the Capital Campaign.

In Memory of

Given in Memory By

Gertrude Stein Nelson	Betty Kotlen
Stephen Brown	Susan Brown
Roberta Fox	Bessie Lindenbaum
Walter Feldman	Nadia Weisberg
Shirley Kesterman	Carol & Edwin Brooklyn
Bernice Markoff Gourse	Carol & Edwin Brooklyn
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Hope Scott Myerson	Carol & Edwin Brooklyn
Gussie Baxt	Beverly Goldberg
Lester A. Shapiro	Donald Shapiro
Doris Hirsch	Maxine Goldin
Mildred Waldman Gurwitz	Deborah & Herbert Katz
Catherine Walters	Deborah & Herbert Katz

Naming Opportunity Donations

The Fred, Gertrude & Henry Regensteiner Offices of the Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association – Given by Norman Bolotow & Bank of America

The Hassenfeld Family Gallery Wall — Given by the Hassenfeld Family Foundation

The Hockman-Foster Family Archives — Given in Memory of Beryl & Chaya Segal, Given by the families of Annette & Jack Hockman and Geraldine & Warren Foster

To be Determined

Generous gifts given by George & Betsey Goodwin, the Bazar/Manville/Sigal Families, the Goldowsky Family, and Howard Weiss & National Office Furniture.

Donor Wall Donations

Arnold Kaufman, Mel Topf, Peri Ann Aptaker & Robert Lieberman, Ronald Markoff & Karen Triedman, Banice & Beverly Bazar, Kenath Shamir, Bud & Ellie Frank, Robert Satloff, David Schaffer, the Ginsberg Family, Bailey Silechnik, Susan Brown and Ruth Breindel

In Honor of

Warren & Robert Galkin for Honorary Doctorates
 Dr. George Goodwin
 Audrey Bienenfeld Bieder
 Morris Satloff & Beverly Granoff Satloff
 Cynthia Levin's Special Birthday
 Dr. George Goodwin
 Trudy Galkin's Special Birthday
 Patty Alperin's Special Birthday

Given in Honor By

Duffy & Larry Page
 Norman Shack
 Bernard Bieder
 Robert Satloff
 Stanley & Marcia Blacher
 Norman Shack
 Janice & Harold Gadon
 Ina & Bernard Wasserman

General Capital Campaign Donations

Lee Teverow, Myra B. Shays, Robert Galkin, Marjorie Moskol, Larry Parness, Robert & Diana Glashow, Daniel & Patricia O'Sullivan, Philip Segal Jr. & Barbara Segal, Nancy Rachman, Gloria Feibish, Anne & Gerald Sherman, James & Gail Galkin, Norman Shack, Brock & Jamie Manville, Charles Kahn, Ann & Joey Bazar, and Maxine Goldin