



Volume XXI, Number 2

June, 2008

54th ANNUAL MEETING

The 54th Annual Meeting of the Rhode Island Jewish Historical Association was held on Sunday, April 13 at the Jewish Community Center.

The Chairman of the Day, David Leach, welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced our President Stephen Brown who spoke on the past year and future plans for the organization. Jack Fradin gave the Treasurer's report, and Stanley Abrams gave the Publications Committee report. Stanley also recognized Florence Markoff for her contribution of oral histories to RIJHA. Eugene Weinberg introduced the new slate of officers and Melvin Zurier installed them.

Dr. Omer Bartov, John P. Birkelund Distinguished Professor of European History at Brown University, delivered the 38th annual David Charak Adelman Lecture. His topic was "Israel and the Holocaust; Identity and Policy." Dr Bartov was raised in Israel and is an authority on genocide and is author of many books.

Our contribution to the celebration of "Israel at 60" was an exhibit called "Witness to History." Geraldine Foster asked members of the community "Where Were You on May 14, 1948?" The exhibit showed their responses along with newspaper clippings, maps and photos from 1948. Robert Kotlen used his expertise to make the exhibit interesting and colorful.

Refreshments featured a cake with the inscription "Israel at 60."

2008-2009 RIJHA OFFICERS

Officers – One Year Term

President	Stephen M. Brown
1st Vice President	David H. Leach
2nd Vice President	Kenneth Orenstein
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Presidential Appointees

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RI JEWISH HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

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NEWSLETTER

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President's Message

By Stephen Brown

As summer arrives, there are two items that we ask you to remember and hopefully consider. The first is membership. While our membership continues to grow, and it is wonderful to see more senior members join our group, it is important that we encourage more of the "next generation" to join and become active members, in both our leadership and operation. A gift of a year's membership to a friend or family member will go a long way toward attracting new and younger members.

The second item is that many of our members have interesting stories to tell about our community. Unfortunately, we don't have a large, financed writing staff to research information for stories. We must therefore rely on our members coming to us for guidance; and then either writing, or having someone else write, their story. Articles could be submitted for publication in the quarterly issue of the Newsletter, or the annual issue of the Notes. Stories can also be recorded in our archives for the benefit of future generations. If you have any questions please contact Anne in our office.

IN OUR OFFICE AND ARCHIVES

By Anne Sherman

During the last couple of months, the office has been very busy helping with genealogy research. We receive calls and e-mails from all over the country. Recently inquires have come from Maryland, Pennsylvania, Utah, Massachusetts, Ohio and Washington DC.

One of the most interesting telephone calls was from a woman in Marietta, Georgia. She was looking for an article in the September 1979 *Federation Voice* on Russian immigration. Her father's photograph was in it. He had just passed away and the family had only half the article. When I called to tell her that I have a copy of the story, she cried.

A New Jersey woman, the granddaughter of Rabbi David Werner, (Rabbi of Sons of Zion, 1936-1954) called looking for the November 30, 1951 *Jewish Herald*. Her parents' wedding merited a two page article.

Requests for reprints from the *Rhode Island Jewish Historical Notes* are always in demand.

Some go back a year or two, but many go back forty or fifty years. The Cumulative Index, on our website, is how many people learn about the articles. Some people find a relative's name and are just curious.

A caller from Utah needed contact information for the cemetery in Middletown. A caller from Pennsylvania needed death records from the late 1800's. I referred her to the RI State Archives.

We received an interesting acquisition from Marilyn Myrow. They were the original naturalization papers of Max Berman and Sadie Berman and their original marriage license. Also included was the original birth record of their daughter Marion, plus Marion's Ketuppah celebrating her marriage to Frank Shone. Early records are an important part of our collection.

"If we do not have it, then no one has given it to us." That is what I tell people who do not understand why we may not have information on a particular person, organization or synagogue. So if you find something that relates to Rhode Island Jewish history, please bring it into the office.

Banner Lodge

Do you remember Banner Lodge in Moodus, CT? It was a popular summer resort from the 1930's to 1970's. Did you vacation there? For our archives, we are interested in gathering memories, photos and souvenirs of Banner Lodge. Can you help us? We would like to write an article about the Lodge and need your memories and photos.

Please e-mail us at rijha@aol.com or send your memories to the office. Thank you.

AUTHORS WANTED

RIJHA is writing monthly articles for the *Jewish Voice and Herald*. If you are interested in writing an article of about 600 words, please call Jerry Foster at 943-6469. Material and photos should come from our archives. We also accept articles related to Rhode Island Jewish history for this Newsletter. Maximum 250 words. E-mail submissions to mrabrams@aol.com or send to the RIJHA office.

NEXT NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION DATE: September 2008. Newsletter publishes in September, December, March and June.

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IN MEMORY OF HAROLD JACOBBER

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FROM

IN HONOR OF

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Anita & Mike Fine	Milton Brier's birthday
Donna Weiss & Todd Sahrer	Milton Brier's birthday
Audrey & Bernard Bieder	Herbert Brown's 90 th birthday
Barbara & Maxwell Morgan	Jerome Corwin's 95 th birthday
Zita & Milton Brier	Estelle & Jack Fradin's granddaughter's Bat Mitzvah
Estelle & Jack Fradin	Sandra Gertz's grandson's Bar Mitzvah
Alice & Sidney Goldstein	George Goodwin's excellent editorship
Dr. Banice Webber & Marie	Clark Dr. Abraham Horvitz's birthday
Dr. & Mrs Henry Litchman	Dr. Herbert Iventash's 90 th birthday
Betsey & George Goodwin	Dr. Herbert Iventash's 90 th birthday
Bette-Ann & Norbert Fessel	Aaron David Kirschenbaum's Bar Mitzvah
Beverly & Morris Satloff	Bernard LaBush's birthday
Greta & Bernard LaBush	Their 56 th wedding anniversary
Rachel Levin	Leonard I. Levin's birthday
Sara Levin	Leonard I. Levin's birthday
Belle Braunstein	Bess Lindenbaum's birthday

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IN HONOR OF JACK FRADIN'S SPECIAL BIRTHDAY

Florette & Marvin Brill, Zita & Milton Brier, Susan & Stephen Brown, Anita & Mike Fine, Jack Fradin, Betsey & George Goodwin, Anne & Gerald Sherman

FROM

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SPEEDY RECOVERY

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CORRECTIONS FROM RIJHA NOTES; Volume 15, Number 1

1. p. iii, Aaron Cohen's name was omitted from Past Presidents.
2. p. 181, Necrology: Samuel Glassman's wife Stella is alive and well. We sincerely apologize for this error.
3. p. 186, Necrology: Arlene Silver died December 22, 2006 at the age of 90.
4. p. 111, Betty Kotlen's mother was incorrectly identified in the Mah Jong article. It should have read Sally Basok.

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