The National Council of Jewish Women, Inc.

Founded 1893

For the promotion of social betterment through work in the fields of peace, social legislation, social service, religion, education and service to the foreign-born.

Hereby admits to membership in the National body the members of the HARTFORD Section in the city of HARTFORD in the State of CONN.

In view of their decision to accept and be governed by the policies and by-laws of the National Council of Jewish Women.

All privileges and rights as a constituent member are hereby conferred.

Chartered FEBRUARY 18, 1910

A TREASURE FROM THE ARCHIVE

1910 original NCJW Hartford Section Charter
Introducing “Out of the Archives” a monthly feature on www.jhsgh.org
Dear Fellow Members and Friends

As President and along with the Board of Directors, we are dedicated to the mission of the Jewish Historical Society to collect and preserve the documents, photographs and memorabilia of the Jewish community of Greater Hartford, along with collecting oral histories of local individuals and families, and to share these incredible materials with the community in exhibits, presentations, books and film, as well as in our essential archives. We are a tiny organization that does great work and during the next few years, we will be expanding with diverse programming for new and existing members.

We are very excited about our upcoming programming and planning, there are so many choices for members of all ages, and we are looking forward to seeing you soon at one of our events. On Monday March 11, join us for one of the more unique offerings in our history, a full kosher Iraqi Jewish dinner! It is the pre-screening celebration ahead of the showing of “Remember Baghdad” which the JHSGH is sponsoring at the Jewish Film Festival at the Mandell Jewish Community Center. We are also thrilled to be holding our first Slow Roll Bike Tour of Jewish Hartford on April 28, an adaptation of our outstanding and popular bus tour into a sensational bike ride, which we will also be co-sponsoring with the Mandell JCC. In June, we are looking forward to a memorable annual meeting in which the official Historian of West Hartford, Dr. Tracey Wilson, will speak about an aspect of Beatrice Fox Auerbach’s legacy which will be new to most of us, when she travelled to Germany and Israel in 1949 as part of an official State Department delegation.

It has also been a very busy time at the Society where we have recently completed a new strategic plan which we are looking forward to implementing as we plan for our future. Among our goals are to broaden our membership and revenue base and to strengthen our governance. I am glad to report that we are making strong progress towards these goals and that our skilled Board of Directors are playing an important role in this process. I would also like to thank our strategic planning task force for their hard work and dedication: David Diamond, Mary Donohue, Michael Fishman, Steven Kleinman, Abbey Kreinik and Estelle Kafer.

Finally, I would like to welcome our new members and also thank the Board of Directors for their commitment of time, energy and financial support. Crucially, I would also like to thank our excellent staff led by Executive Director Estelle Kafer, including Lynn Newman and our new archivist Leah Early.

I hope to see you soon!
Lance
Explores, documents and shares the rich diversity of European Jewish Life before the Holocaust and its enduring legacy in our region. With broad participation from the Greater Hartford Jewish Community, the project supports lectures, field trips, adult learning, youth education, and other programming about Jewish life in Europe, discovering and connecting with this unique heritage. The Jewish Hartford European Roots Project is generously funded by a grant from the Konover Coppa Fund and is housed at the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center at the University of Connecticut.

For more information visit: jewishhartford.uconn.edu
**Monday, March 11, 2019 - 6:00 p.m.**
"Remember Baghdad" film screening and Iraqi Jewish dinner. Co-sponsored with the Mandell JCC.
Mandell JCC, 335 Bloomfield Avenue, West Hartford

**Monday, March 18, 2019 - 7:00 p.m.**
JHSGH Board Meeting
Community Services Building

**Tuesday, March 19, 2019 - 7:00 p.m.**
"Klezmer: Music, History and Memory" lecture by Professor Walter Zev Feldman. Co-sponsored with Jewish Hartford-European Roots and The Emanuel Synagogue Adult Education Program.
The Emanuel Synagogue, 160 Mohegan Drive, West Hartford

**Sunday, April 7, 2019 (TBD)**
Good Deeds Day
Join JHS for a DO GOOD project. For details please visit jhsgh.org

**Wednesday, April 10, 2019 - 2:00 p.m.**
281 Country Club Rd, Avon

**Tuesday, April 23, 2019 - 7:00 p.m.**
JHSGH Board Meeting
Community Services Building

**Sunday, April 28, 2019 - 9:00 to 12:30 a.m.**
Back to the Old Neighborhoods Slow Roll Bike Tour of old Jewish Hartford.
Tour leaves from the Community Services Building

**Monday, May 16, 2019, 10:30 - 4:30**
Trip to the Yiddish Book Center, Amherst, MA. Co-sponsored with the Mandell JCC.

**Wednesday, May 29, 2019 - 7:00 p.m.**
JHSGH Board Meeting
Community Services Building

**Monday, June 24, 2019 - 7:00 p.m.**
JHSGH Annual Meeting: Excerpts from a Travel Diary: Around the World with Mrs. Auerbach
By Dr. Tracey Wilson, West Hartford Town Historian
Mandell JCC, 335 Bloomfield Ave. West Hartford

**Monday, July 15-26, 2019**
An inspiring journey to Lithuania and Poland led by Professor Sam Kassow
For more information, visit: https://tinyurl.com/ycu7y3wc

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**STAY CONNECTED!**

Like, share and comment on our social media posts!
https://www.facebook.com/jhsghct/

Also visit us on Instagram, Twitter & YouTube

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**Executive Director**
Estelle Kafer
ekafer@jewishhartford.org

**Archivist**
Leah Early
learly@jewishhartford.org

**Program Administrator**
Lynn Newman
lnewman@jewishhartford.org

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To register for our programs, go to:
www.jhsgh.org and click on the EVENTS

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Let’s Do Something Good Together

Sunday, April 28 | 9:30 am–12:30 pm
Check-in and orientation: 9:00 am sharp
Start/End: Community Services Building
333 Bloomfield Avenue, West Hartford

$30/$28 JHSGH or JCC member
Limited spaces: Registration preference to
JHSGH and JCC members up to April 1
Register at www.jhsgh.org/hartford-bike-tour/

Join us for a nostalgic community tour of Hartford’s old Jewish neighborhood, travelling along the route of the popular Jewish Historical Society’s bus tours with stops at three former synagogues and more. This 15-mile ride will be on shared roads with 1½ hours of riding @ 10 mph. Helmets are required and hybrid bikes encouraged. Riders should be prepared to ride on city streets and be comfortable with vehicular traffic. Bicycle service and assistance will be provided by Bloomfield Bike.

For more information, call 860 727-6170 or email Lnewman@jewishhartford.org

An afternoon with author Deborah Levison

A special author talk and book signing presented by the Avon Free Public Library and Jewish Historical Society of Greater Hartford

Wednesday
April 10, 2019
2:00 pm

Good Deeds Day is a global day that unites people from 100 countries to do good deeds for the benefit of others and the planet.

http://www.good-deeds-day.org/

Let’s Do Something Good Together

April 7, 2019
Join JHS for a DO GOOD project

For more information visit: www.jhsgh.org or call Lynn Newman 860 727-6170

Good Deeds Day is a global day that unites people from 100 countries to do good deeds for the benefit of others and the planet.

http://www.good-deeds-day.org/
RECENT EVENTS

Over 100 people attended the lively panel discussion recounting the history of the Jewish community of New Britain. The panelists, pictured l to r: Roz Rachlin, moderator, Sharon Zwelling Cohen, Joshua Rubenstein, Jason Pearl, and Gladys Pinsker Feigenbaum.

We had a wonderful tour of Congregation Beth Shalom Rodfe Zedek and the beautiful home and studio of Sol LeWitt in Chester, CT.

Nancy Finlay, author of *In the Grand Tradition*, shared her knowledge of the Hartford sculptor, Elbert Weinberg. Attendees shared their Weinberg pieces for the audience to enjoy that evening.

Rachel Kadish, author of *The Weight of Ink*, gave an informative talk about her book and the history of the Jewish community of London in the 1660’s. This program was co-sponsored with The Emanuel Synagogue.

A novel written by Serene Hackel, JHS member. This beautiful and captivating tale is woven from true stories told to her by her mother. It traces her grandmother’s journey to America.

Here is a link to Amazon: https://tinyurl.com/y9kpjojd

Above image: New Britain Talmud Torah DVD of the panel discussion available for sale on our website http://jhsgh.org/new-britain-event-dvd-available/
Dear Friends,

I am pleased to introduce myself as the new archivist for the Jewish Historical Society. While a graduate student in Simmons University’s archives management program, in 2012 I served as an intern at the Society with then archivist Gregory Farr. Since graduating, my focus is digital imaging standards and practices for cultural heritage materials in small institutions like the JHSGH, and I am so excited to bring what I have learned back to this important collection.

As your new archivist, I hope to continue the work initiated by Jeanne Lowrey and Yael Schacher in updating the technological capabilities of the archive through transition to modern software and standards. As always, we are in need of volunteers comfortable working with computer systems to assist in updating our catalog records. Please e-mail me at learyl@jewishhartford.org if you are interested in helping out.

Digitization serves a dual purpose in archives: it allows us to expand access to our resources through the web as well as to preserve through reformatting original materials subject to deterioration over time. To that end, we plan this year to begin digitizing the Society’s wonderful collection of scrapbooks and albums related to local synagogues. By carefully photographing the scrapbooks, we can create digital facsimiles of these important materials that retain the original album arrangement, allowing deep access to these treasures currently impossible due to their fragility.

In January, we learned of an exciting project to digitize the complete collection of Weaver High School yearbooks, from 1924 to 2010. Robert Ellis, Weaver High class of ’66, has been hard at work on the project and recently announced its availability online. The only missing volume is, happily, one we hold here at the Historical Society, and we will be contributing digital images of our copy to complete the set. Explore the digitized yearbooks online at www.archive.org/details/weaverhighschoolyearbooks
Dear Friends

We hope you enjoy this revised Bulletin format with a slightly larger font and additional pages to include the numerous JHSGH activities and programs.

We are pleased to announce a new monthly feature “Out of the Archives” that will be posted on the Society website (jhsgh.org). Each month we will highlight an artifact, a document, a photograph - a “treasure” from the archive. We are continually receiving acquisitions and collecting new material. Often, as we respond to research requests from community members, students, educators, authors, filmmakers and other organizations, we discover unusual or valuable items within our collections. We look forward to sharing these snapshots of early Hartford Jewish life and the significance of their impact on our vibrant community of today.

I was delighted to be approached by Rabbi Sam Englender, Director of Pastoral Care at the Hebrew Center, about a collaborative oral history project with residents at the center. Sam was inspired by their stories of growing up in Hartford and asked for our help with the interview and documentation process. Dr. Eduardo Canedo will be conducting the interviews which will then be placed in our community family history collection and distributed to family members.

This spring, we will begin to plan two new exhibits. The first one will be on view at the Society’s office exhibit space. “Travels in Israel in 1951” is an exhibit that will utilize and digitize a unique collection of glass positive slides and photo scrapbook donated by JHSGH founder Emma Cohen. The second exhibit will be created as a traveling exhibit. “Female Trailblazers; Hartford Jewish Women Who Made A Difference” will highlight a number of “female firsts” – women (such as Beatrice Fox Auerbach and Annie Fisher) who paved the way in their field and were role models and mentors for young women all over the country. We hope to make the public aware of these “trailblazers of the past” and their remarkable accomplishments. We are extremely grateful for the support from the BFA/Koopman Fund at the Jewish Community Foundation for this project.

We are very excited to welcome our new archivist, Leah Early, to our staff. Leah comes to us with considerable experience in digital archiving and management training of ArchivesSpace, which is our archival database. She has worked with collections at the Noah Webster House, Harriett Beecher Stowe Center and Amherst College. Leah’s skills will prove useful as we move ahead with a digitization strategy for some of our deteriorating collections.

Wishing everyone a lovely Spring and Passover,
Estelle

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JHS ANNUAL MEETING and PROGRAM

Monday, June 24 at 7:00pm, Mandell JCC

Excerpts from a Travel Diary: Around the World with Mrs. Auerbach

By Dr. Tracey Wilson, West Hartford Town Historian

A presentation about Beatrice Fox Auerbach and Chase Going Woodhouse’s seven week trip to Israel, Germany and seven other countries in the Summer of 1949. Tracey will share Mrs. Auerbach’s engaging insights about the post war world, travel, and what she called “studies in human beings.”
NCJW

Jenna Gershman, an intern from the Trinity Public Humanities Collaborative, researched and wrote about NCJW and this original 1910 Hartford section charter document.

In the late 19th century and early 20th century all throughout America, groups of Jewish women began to come together and establish their own organizations. In various Jewish communities throughout the country, men took on the majority of roles and this prompted a group of women to create a platform for their own voices to be heard in the form of separate organizations. While some of these organizations interacted with communities on a local and state level, certain organizations had a national influence, including The National Council for Jewish Women. Founded in 1893 by Hannah G. Solomon, The National Council for Jewish Women is an organization which seeks to promote advocacy and instill positive values in Jewish women throughout the United States of America, its three main qualities being education, social action, and service. Founded upon the core ethics of the Jewish faith, NCJW prioritizes action and support on current and timely issues which seek to protect the rights of all individuals, across the country and across the generations. The Hartford section of the National Council was officially established in 1910, and actively participated in service projects in the areas of health, welfare, providing meals to the community, and facilitating positive change within the area. For over 100 years, NCJW truly contributed to many facets of life in the Greater Hartford community throughout its history.

The front cover image is a hand drawn document of the Hartford section’s original charter from its establishment in 1910, which lays out the goals of the section: “For the promotion of social betterment through work in the fields of peace, social legislation, social service, religion, education and service to the foreign-born.” Today, the National Organization continues to promote social change by engaging closely with salient political issues that have impact on the American citizenship. For more information, please go to www.ncjw.org.

FROM OUR ARCHIVIST

Yael Schacher worked at the Society from September to December when she unexpectedly had to relocate. We greatly appreciate her contributions....

I worked on continuing the transition from the ArchiveToolkit database to the new ArchiveSpace database and I have begun creating new finding aids (or collection inventories) using it. With the help of the Bradbards, who volunteer at the archives every Thursday, I have processed the collection of records from Congregation Beth Ahm in Windsor, which merged with Temple Beth Hillel this past summer. Susan and Allan Viner painstakingly organized seven decades of the Synagogue’s bulletins and minutes. They have now been arranged in chronological folders and I have developed a finding aid—a detailed inventory—of the collection, which is now open to researchers. In October our well-attended event on the history of the Jews of New Britain led to several new acquisitions, including photographs of Jewish businesses and families as well as hard to find materials documenting the city’s federation, organizations, and synagogues. I have been adding these new acquisitions to our existing collections. I have also been adding acquisitions to our Konover family collection and to our Jewish War Veterans collection.

Several researchers visited our collections over the past few weeks. A staff member from the Wethersfield Historical Society spent an afternoon looking over our extensive Jewish farmers collection. One researcher dropped in to request a copy of an oral history with her grandmother, a Holocaust survivor; I offered both a written transcript and digitized audio version of the interview and the researcher was very touched to hear the sound of her grandmother’s voice. One researcher sought out pictures and descriptions of the interior of Lewis Fox’s home at 750 Prospect Street in Hartford. The researcher had recently purchased the home and plans to restore it. A student from CCSU visited the archives to do research for her senior thesis on the Hartford Jewish community in the 1920s and 1930, particularly the impact of the boycott of German goods on Jewish workers and business owners and their relationship to each other. She delved into our records of labor organizations and businesses, into our book of oral histories of life in the North End in the interwar period, and into our rich newspaper collections from that period.
THOUGHTFUL CONTRIBUTIONS

**Heritage Society** ($1800)
Steven and Deborah Kleinman

**Preservation Society** ($1000)
Michael and Naomi Cohen
David H. and Rochelle S. Fierston

**Generous Donations, Bequests and Grants**
Tobey Gitelle,
Laurence H. Waltman
Marjorie Feldman
Robert H. Kennedy

**General Donations**
Louise Belkin
Deborah Hyman

**In honor of:**
Arnold Aronson’s birthday!
   By Judge Arnold and Hermia Aronson
   By Dr. Jeffrey and Diane Wasser

**In honor of:**
All the wonderful programs you do, and all the services you provide.
   By Brenda J. Miller

**In honor of:**
Lance Goldberg’s Leadership.
   By Robin Landau

**In honor of:**
Jeanne Lowrey and the wonderful oral history collection at the JHS.
   By Margaret Parskey

**In honor of:**
Marshall and Sandra Rulnick L’shana tova.
   By Avra Novarr

**In honor of:**
Our daughter Jill joining the JHSGH board of directors!!
   By Eileen and Elliott Pollack

**In Honor of:**
Lance Goldberg
   By Harold and Ava Geetter

**In memory of:**
Phil and Fran Feltman
   By Marsha and Ed Lotstein

**In memory of:**
Sidney and Bess Koppell
   By Martin Koppell

**In memory of:**
George and Edna Shainfarber
   By Andrew Nadler

**In memory of:**
Alvin Diamond, father of Dave Diamond
   By Michael and Naomi Cohen

**In memory of:**
Marvin Pleskow, father/father-in-law of Lisa & Sam Kassow.
   Barbara and David Brown

**In memory of:**
Harvey Hoberman, son-in-law of Ruth Solomkin
   By Joan Walden & Jake Mendelssohn

**In memory of:**
Dr. Jerry Cohen
   By Bobbe Basch

Contributions are a thoughtful way of honoring or memorializing an individual, or commemorating an event, and at the same time supporting the Society. All contributions of $18.00 or more will be acknowledged and printed in our bulletin. To make a donation to the JHSGH, please visit our website.

IN MEMORIAM

Samuel Blumenthal     Philip Feltman     Howard Nair
Jerry Cohen           Harvey Hoberman    Merrill Stein
Frances Feltman
SAVE THE DATE

The Art of Sol LeWitt
Sold out in 2018!
Last Chance to view the home and studio of Artist, Sol LeWitt

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

The Roots of Rock ‘N’ Roll
with Brian Gillie

Listen to a presentation of music of the 50's and 60's while reminiscing about early Hartford hang outs.

Sunday October 27, 2019

Please check the website www.jhsgh.org for more details this summer.

WELCOMING OUR NEW MEMBERS

Caryl Blum
Lisa Franklin
Susan Goodwin
Fran Gurtman
Andrea and Sid Igdalsky
Lev Nathaniel Kropsky

Nancy Kursman
Gloria Levin
Marty and Ilona Levitz
Jean Lewanda
Jeanne Lowrey
Doris Nabel

Roz Rachlin
Marilyn S. Rothstein
Judith Silver
Michael Wilder
Sebastian Wogenstein
Delicious Memories

A food blog of the Jewish Historical Society. We want your Passover recipes!

Do you have a Passover recipe that has been passed down or a favorite holiday dish you always make?
A story about you family’s Seder traditions?
Memories of a Seder growing up?

Please share them on our food blog.
http://jhsgh.org/delicious-memories/

Jewish Historical Society of Greater Hartford
JHSGH
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West Hartford, CT 06117