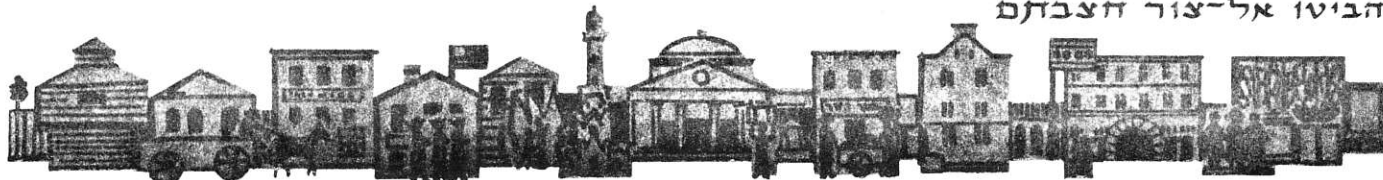


Look to the rock from which you were hewn
הביטו אל-צור חצבתכם



chicago jewish historical society

SOCIETY NEWS # 1

APRIL 1977

OPEN MEETINGS

SUNDAY AFTERNOON - JUNE 5TH - 1:30 P.M. - SPERTUS COLLEGE OF JUDAICA
MEETING CO-SPONSORED BY CJHS AND THE LIBRARY GUILD OF SPERTUS COLLEGE

"TREASURE HUNTING FOR CHICAGO JEWISH ARCHIVES"

PRESENTED BY RICHARD MARCUS

HEAD LIBRARIAN AND ARCHIVIST OF THE ASHER LIBRARY OF THE
SPERTUS COLLEGE OF JUDAICA

Business meeting, preceding the talk, will include future plans for meetings, exhibits, historical tours of the city, and your ideas.

Registration for Seminars on the care and collection of Archival Material will take place at this meeting. Seminars, to be given by Richard Marcus, will begin during the summer months, and will be open (at no charge) by reservation, to members of the Chicago Jewish Historical Society.

TUESDAY EVENING - JUNE 28TH - 7:30 P.M. - LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED

SPECIAL GUEST LECTURER: DR. MALCOLM STERN
RABBI, AUTHOR AND LEADING AMERICAN JEWISH GENEALOGIST

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF THE CHICAGO JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY
UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY THE MEMBERSHIP, MARCH 13TH 1977

To collect, preserve and exhibit memorabilia and materials of every kind pertaining to the settlement, history and life of Jews and the Jewish community of metropolitan Chicago, Illinois; and to conduct education programs, encourage study and research, and disseminate information pertaining to the settlement, history and life of Jews and the Jewish community of metropolitan Chicago, Illinois.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Founding a new society is a challenge. In just 3 months we have grown from the small group of people who met during the winter snowstorms to talk about possible organizations to a Society of over 130 memberships, several patrons and sponsors, and two contributing organizations. We have officers and a board of directors; a legal committee that has written by-laws and articles of incorporation; status as a Not-for-profit organization in the State of Illinois; a working relationship with the Asher Library of the Spertus College of Judaica, the Spertus Library Guild and the Chicago Jewish Archives; and a proposal in committee to deposit our archives at the Asher Library of Spertus College; plans for open meetings; a program of seminars; a speakers bureau; and committees working all of these areas.

All of these initial accomplishments have required the cooperative efforts of all of the board members. Many committee meetings as well as board meetings have taken place in the past few months, and I would like to acknowledge the tremendous work of the board in all of these efforts.

Plans for an exhibit of Chicago Jewish History, one of the compelling reasons for the founding of our Society, are being discussed. Organizational matters had to be taken care of as our first step, reasoned our board, and the plans and goals of our first exhibit will be undertaken by a committee to be set up at our June 5th meeting.

Many committees are now being formed to continue the work which we have begun. Thruout this Society News you will find articles inviting your participation in committee work or specific activities. Please phone or write to the chairpeople mentioned if you are interested. This Society is a "people society" and we not only welcome but need your help.

MURIEL ROBIN

WANTED: A CALENDAR OF EVENTS
WANTED: A SPEAKERS BUREAU
WANTED: A CROSS FILE OF CHICAGO
JEWISH HISTORY RESOURCES

The CJHS is serving as a clearing house for programs and resources on Chicago Jewish History, as well as a source of information about available programs and speakers.

The Society needs information about the involvement of its members in projects concerning Chicago Jewish history.

Do you have a program related to the Chicago Jewish experience? The American Jewish experience?

Does your organization need such a program?

Do you know of any forthcoming programs taking place in the Chicago metropolitan area relating to our history?

The information cards that members filled out at our March 13th meeting indicate that many of our members are engaged in projects and in research involving Chicago Jewish history. Our board is interested in establishing a Speakers Bureau and other files so that we may serve as an educational resource for the community. Vice-president, Ruth Brandzel, is accepting information and will form a committee for this purpose. Please send information or direct your inquiries to her at 330 W. Diversey, Chicago, 60657 or phone her at 871-2121.

SOCIETY NEWS

PUBLISHED BY THE
CHICAGO JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

EDITORS: RACHEL HEIMOVICS
BURTON ROBIN

CJHS LOGO: ROSEANN CHASMAN

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Membership in the CJHS is open to all. Dues categories, approved by the Board of Directors at its March Board Meeting, are:

- \$5.00 Student & Senior Citizens
- \$10.00 Contributing Membership
- \$25.00 Sustaining Membership
- \$50.00 Patron Membership
- \$100.00 and up - Sponsoring Membership
- \$25.00 Minimum contribution for Synagogue and organization Membership

To become a member, or to increase your membership contribution, send your check in the enclosed envelope. Additional envelopes are available by contacting our Membership chairperson, Ruth Brandzel, at 871-2121.

AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Membership in the AJHS is available thru our CJHS. \$25.00 membership dues to the American Jewish Historical Society entitles you to receive the American Jewish Historical Quarterly. The AJHS is the nation's oldest ethnic historical society, founded in 1892. Their headquarters, on the campus of Brandeis University at Waltham, Mass., houses their Library and exhibits and is open to the public.

Bernard Wax, Director of the AJHS, (and the speaker at our first open meeting), has been most helpful in lending support and assistance to the CJHS.

SOCIETY POLICIES:

The policy of the CJHS regarding the collection of archives is to encourage the collection of only uncommitted materials. Persons interested in representing the Society in the acquisition of archives should contact Richard Marcus at the Asher Library, 922-9012.

Anyone interested in representing the Society in any other matters should contact Muriel Robin, 493-7938.

IMPORTANT EXHIBITS

The outstanding exhibit, "From Hester Street to Highland Park," at North Suburban Synagogue Beth El has been extended to June. It is open to the public on Saturdays from 9a.m. to 2p.m., and other days by appointment. Call 433-8900 to arrange a tour of this beautiful exhibit. Judy Podolsky, a founding member of CJHS, is the curator of the museum. The Synagogue is at 1175 Sheridan Rd., Highland Park.

"Ethnic Groups in the Hull House Neighborhood: 1850 to 1914" is the title of a new exhibit at Hull House, featuring Jewish and other ethnic groups. It is open to the public from 10a.m. to 4p.m. weekdays, and from 1 to 4p.m. on Sundays. The exhibit was funded by a grant from the Illinois Bicentennial Commission. Hull House is at 800 S. Halsted St., Chicago.

OUR HISTORY

The Chicago Jewish Historical Society is preparing its own records for future historians. Members are asked to clip and save publicity about the Society. Doris Minsky, our Historian, asks that clippings be sent to her at 2614 Farnsworth Lane, Northbrook, 60062.

SPECIAL LECTURE: AN INVITATION

Dr. Jacob Rader Marcus, Founder and Director of the American Jewish Archives, will be the guest speaker on Sunday, May 8 - 11 a.m. at Sinai Temple, 5350 So. Shore Dr., Chicago.

OPENING MEETING: A REPORT

Nearly 100 people attended the opening meeting of the Society on Sunday afternoon, March 13th.

Bernard Wax, Director of the American Jewish Historical Society, spoke on "Creating a New Jewish Historical Society."

The meeting was chaired by Muriel Robin, President of the Society, who welcomed the large crowd and expressed optimism and enthusiasm for the future of this new Society.

Treasurer Charles B. Bernstein reported 80 Founding Members and announced that the rolls would remain open for a few more days to include those interested in becoming Founding Members. He also read the Statement of Purpose, which was unanimously approved by the assembled members. The Statement appears on page 1.

Richard Marcus, Head Librarian of the Asher Library, spoke on the future cooperation between the Society and the Chicago Jewish Archives which are housed at the Spertus Library. He offered to train members of the Society in the techniques of archival detection, selection and preservation.

Two large gifts to the Society were announced. The West Valley Section of the National Council of Jewish Women announced a pledge of \$1,000.00, and the Amalgamated Clothing Workers announced a gift of \$200.00. Bernstein also announced 3 patron memberships at \$50.00 each and 1 sponsoring membership at \$100.00.

Bernard Wax, referring to the Jewish Historical Society of Illinois, said "Chicago was the home of the first local Jewish historical society. This society produced the 1924 publication, History of the Jews of Chicago, edited by Hyman L. Meites, and then went out of existence. He reviewed the objectives of twenty existing local Jewish historical societies in the U.S. and

detailed a wide variety of possible programs that our new Society might undertake. He congratulated the founding members of CJHS and offered the support and encouragement of the American Jewish Historical Society.

ORAL HISTORIES

Taking Oral Histories is an important activity of our Society. If you would like to work in this area contact Moselle Mintz, 924-9247 for suggestions and directions.

INFORM YOUR SYNAGOGUE AND FAVORITE ORGANIZATIONS OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CJHS BY SENDING THEM THE ENCLOSED PRESS RELEASE. YOU MAY USE THIS RELEASE WHEREVER YOU WISH.

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Rec. Sec'y	Allene Frost
Corr. Sec'y	Payah Prochovnick
Liaison - AJHS	Rachel Heimovics

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Sol Brandzel
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Joe Minsky
Moselle Mintz
Ammiel Prochovnick
Burton Robin
Dr. Lawrence Ross
Marcia Ross

THE FOUNDING MEMBERS OF THE CHICAGO JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

THIS LIST ACKNOWLEDGES THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE MADE A DUES CONTRIBUTION TO THE SOCIETY PRIOR TO THE CLOSING OF THE FOUNDING MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY. THE SOCIETY GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES THEIR SUPPORT.

Ms. Janice Abroahams
Mr. & Mrs. L. Axelrod
Mr. & Mrs. Charles B. Bernstein
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Best
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Mr. & Mrs. J. W. Zite

Names omitted from this list through an oversight on the part of the editors will be added upon request. Please notify either Charles B. Bernstein, treasurer, or Ruth Brandzel, membership chairman, so that your name will appear on the corrected list in a future Society News.

"ANY PERSON WHO BECOMES A MEMBER OF THE CHICAGO JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY WITHIN TEN DAYS OF THE FILING OF THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF THE SOCIETY SHALL BE DESIGNATED A FOUNDING MEMBER."

FROM THE BY-LAWS OF THE
CHICAGO JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION WERE
FILED IN SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
ON MARCH 31, 1977.