



CHICAGO JEWISH HISTORY

The Annual Book Issue

Links to the Past, Bridges to the Future: The CJHS Digitization Project

By Nathan Ellstrand

Raymond Epstein. Ruth Rothstein. Abner J. Mikva. They are just a few of the hundreds of members of the Chicago Jewish community whose oral histories, in possession of the Chicago Jewish Historical Society (CJHS), are part of the newly digitized Rose L. and Sidney N. Shure Chicago Jewish Oral History Library, established in 2018 by a generous bequest from the Rose L. Shure Trust.

Now that these histories—recorded between the 1970s and the early 2000s—have been digitized, they will be available for use by generations to come, including researchers, historians, and those interested in learning more about the rich history of Chicago's Jews.

The benefits of digitization are many and varied. Because magnetic tapes have a short lifespan, it was essential that the Society convert these tapes into a format that would preserve the interviews. CJHS board members Frances Archer and Joy Kingsolver worked on converting each individual tape into a respective MP3 file listed by name. They sent the tapes to a digitizing company and then checked painstakingly when they were returned to make sure they were converted correctly.

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Editor's Column: Ode to the Indie Bookstore

For me, a child of the 1970s, nothing could provide more sustenance than the neighborhood bookshop.

The bookish, ungainly only child of bookish and painfully ill-matched parents, I found refuge in the cozy comfort of a tiny store whose shelves were bursting with stories and poems that would distract me from the tempestuousness of my parents' marriage.

Karr's was the closest bookstore to my home. Located in the Green Acres Mall in Valley Stream, on Long Island, I could walk there on my own. The owners, a middle-aged Jewish couple, knew me from my days as a tot, when my mother and I would come in for a treat: literary fiction and nonfiction for her, picture books and children's poetry for me.

In those days, the early to mid-1970s, almost every neighboring town, particularly those with sizable Jewish communities, had at least one independent bookstore catering to the tastes of Long Island's readers. Karr's was good, but my favorite back then was Gold's, located on the main shopping strip in the heart of the Jewish South Shore: Central Avenue in Cedarhurst.

Like Karr's, Gold's was owned by a nice, middle-aged Jewish couple. Unlike Karr's, it catered to a more affluent and educated clientele. Cedarhurst, along with three of its other Five Towns neighbors—Hewlett, Woodmere, and Lawrence—was populated by doctors, lawyers, judges, and other professionals, primarily migrants from Brooklyn and Queens, who likely

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Blue Veronika. Artwork © 2020 by Riva Lehrer, from *Golem Girl*. Read more about the Chicago artist and her new memoir on pages 4 and 5 of this issue.

CO-PRESIDENT'S COLUMN



Dr. Rachelle Gold

"Before COVID, we always viewed ourselves as an essential business. It is important for a Jewish community to have a bookstore, along with schools, restaurants, and synagogues ... This is a personal calling, a labor of love, working for and with the community to help provide people with their needs during this crazy time."

Josh Zwelling, operating co-owner of Rosenblum's World of Judaica, Skokie.

"It is a privilege to create a place where people feel the way I do about books ... Books have always been lifesaving ... A book gives you a way to choose a place to go in your imagination and heart. People who care deeply about books and bookstores understand that."

Nina Barrett, founder and owner of Bookends & Beginnings, Evanston.

These quotes come from the avid owners of two local bookstores that have earned the status of cherished community establishments. Zwelling and Barrett graciously agreed to speak with me about how their stores are adapting and faring during this difficult year.

I was heartened to learn that despite discouraging news about the book market and independent bookstores, these stores are vigorously facing the challenges. Zwelling and Barrett exemplify the following description by Allison K. Hill, CEO of American Booksellers Association, "Independent booksellers are creative, resourceful, hard-working and resilient, and they've needed to be during the pandemic."

There are common features that have enabled these two stores to persevere and even thrive. Each has a robust and attractive website—already in operation before the pandemic and enhanced since its onset—that gives customers access to a greater range of goods than available in the store. The stores also have an active presence on social media.

Both stores see their mission as educating their clientele, offering personalized service, and creating a community. The staff is thoroughly knowledgeable about the store's products and services, and is expert in engaging with customers to discern their needs. Customers can shop in the store with COVID guidelines in place.

New methods were instituted for interacting with customers who do not come into the store during regular hours, including delivery and curbside pickup. At Rosenblum's, the customer can arrange an after-hours visit, or converse with the sales associate through video chat, email, or text. The customer can have a virtual browsing experience, which can include leafing through the pages of a book—a simulation of the sensory experience of holding a book that Zwelling says is a key attraction of shopping in a store. For customers who aren't on a live video platform, Rosenblum's sends photos of items of interest.

Bookends & Beginnings similarly engages customers through electronic communication. The store also transitioned its in-store literary events to online "Literary Lunchbreaks," continued its book clubs, and started a concierge service to further personalize the shopping experience.

There are individual aspects of each store's business, as well as unforeseen developments, that have turned out to be favorable as the pandemic has persisted.

Rosenblum's, established in 1941, is a Jewish bookstore *and* a Judaica store. It serves individuals as well as schools, synagogues, and other institutions. This setting is a good fit for Zwelling, a former Jewish day school principal and director of Camp Moshava. The pandemic has curtailed congregating in groups, but patrons have an ongoing need for educational and religious material for the everyday, holiday, and life cycle events.

Zwelling recounts the joy of watching a bris or wedding on Zoom and seeing a special item, such as a kiddush cup, bought at the store. He feels nachas providing a bar mitzvah boy with his first tefillin, even though there is no synagogue celebration. Due to the pandemic, there are fewer bulk orders for large events, but customers find ways to include friends and family. A wedding celebrant ordered personalized benchers and kippahs to send to all the would-be guests. Zwelling adapts his stock to current customer needs, resulting in higher sales volume of certain objects. There has been increased demand for prayer books and mezuzahs. For the Sukkos holiday, he sold more lulavs and esrogs and smaller-sized sukkahs than in the past.

Bookends & Beginnings, whose core business is books, opened only six years ago, but already has cachet. Founder Barrett has years of experience in the world of books and writing, and the store occupies the same site off Sherman Avenue as the old Bookman's Alley, a renowned used bookstore in operation for more



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than 30 years. Barrett reports, with obvious satisfaction, that the store is soon scheduled to fulfill a plan to expand to a storefront space on Sherman. In addition to books, including specialty collections, such as international children's books, the store sells accessories and gift items.

In the early, "dark days" of the shutdown, Bookends & Beginnings owed its survival to the outpouring of support, financial and otherwise, in a Go Fund Me campaign. Then a "miracle" occurred: The Evanston Barnes & Noble went out of business, creating a larger customer base, compounded by the temporary closure of the Evanston Public Library. Meanwhile, large online marketers had deprioritized book shipping, sending more people to the store's website. Sales have been growing, but "the story isn't over," said Barrett. "One-quarter to one-third of business is done in the last weeks of the year." Supply chain problems continue to be a concern. Barrett says that years ago, it was predicted that print books would disappear, so there was a downsizing in the industry that hasn't been rectified as demand has increased.

I hope that these insider insights about our community bookstores deepen your appreciation of them.

Chanukah is approaching. After you browse the titles in this book issue of *CJH*, contact your local bookstore to make your purchase. Then renew your CJHS membership for 2021 and treat your friends to a gift membership!

Happy Chanukah to all.

Links to the Past

continued from front page

Not only does digitization expand the life of each interview, it also allows for greater access to the public. Whereas researchers once had to visit the Spertus Institute in downtown Chicago to listen to the interviews, they soon will have remote access to them, particularly crucial during Covid-19.

As the project assistant for the digitization project, I compiled a spreadsheet that included the date of each interview and its length. I also listened to all of the interviews, adding brief summaries of subjects covered. Now finished, the information will be added to the cataloging database held at Spertus Institute for Jewish Learning and Leadership, where the collection is housed.

These oral histories provide insights into the diverse individuals and organizations that make up Chicago's Jewish community, touching on specific neighborhoods, institutions, and associations, along with universal and timely topics, such as immigration, politics, gender, changing racial and ethnic dynamics, and faith. Listeners will learn, for instance, about the late Congressman Mikva's family background in Russia and later, in Milwaukee, and the start of his political involvement in Chicago. They can also hear about the Fem-Vets, a group of female veterans who served in World War II, and about various *landsmanshaftn*, Jewish mutual aid societies composed of members from the same town or region in Eastern Europe. The role of work as defining people's lives cannot be downplayed. The interviews feature those who taught, practiced medicine and law, installed carpeting, participated in labor union activities, and owned myriad businesses.

The Chicago Jewish Historical Society's collection of oral histories is an invaluable resource for the public. The Society is profoundly grateful to the Shure Trust for enabling the digitization of these histories. Sidney Shure established Shure Incorporated in 1925. Rightly proud of its own place in Chicago Jewish history, the company remains a lasting name in audio products to this day. These oral histories are an essential link to the past and a bridge to future knowledge.

THE BOOK SECTION

“My pen is my harp and my lyre; my library is my garden and my orchard.”
—Judah Halevi

Of Golems and Girls: Chicago Artist Riva Lehrer Publishes Memoir

Riva Lehrer has been a vital force in the Chicago cultural scene and disabilities movement for more than three decades. The artist, born with spina bifida, is perhaps best known for her portraits of people who have often been stigmatized: those who are differently abled or have gender identities and physical traits that do not hew to cultural norms.

Lehrer, 62, teaches at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and Northwestern University’s medical humanities division. A recent body of her work, “Pandemic Portraiture,” was on display at the city’s Zolla/Lieberman Gallery through November.

At present, Lehrer, from a strongly identified Jewish family, is being heralded for her new memoir, *Golem Girl* (One World, Random House), which tracks her beginnings in Cincinnati as an artist, intellectual, and activist. *CJH* Editor Robert Nagler Miller recently held an extended phone interview with Lehrer following the release of her book.

RNM: One of the things I love about *Golem Girl*, so titled because you identify with the golem, the monster-like creature from Jewish folklore, is your liberal sprinkling of Yiddish, which you use without a glossary of terms. Readers, if they don’t know a Yiddishism, have to look it up, just as they’d have to look up an English word with which they’re unfamiliar.



Liz Carr. Artwork © 2020
by Riva Lehrer, from *Golem*

RL: I made the decision that we’re not going to italicize Yiddish, we’re not going to footnote it. It’s absolutely political. I’m Jewish at a time when being Jewish is complicated. I’m not flinching from being Jewish, and I love Yiddish so much.

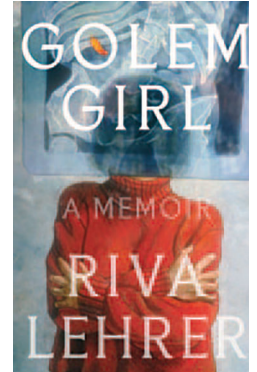
RNM: Your family lived in a number of Cincinnati’s Jewish neighborhoods when you were growing up. What was Jewish Cincinnati like?

RL: Cincinnati was one of the first Jewish communities in America. With Hebrew Union College, it was the center of Reform Judaism. It has the *American Israelite* [the longest-running Jewish newspaper in the United States, which began publishing in 1854]. My people came during World War I, fleeing pogroms in Ukraine.

RNM: Unlike earlier waves of Jewish migration to Cincinnati, during the mid-1800s, which were mostly German.

RL: Yes.

RNM: As much as this book is about you, it’s also about your mother, Carole Horwitz Lehrer, one of the greatest influences in your life. She was, you write, possessed of a “ferocious intelligence.” She was also a gifted artist and writer. You followed in her footsteps.



Riva Lehrer.
Photo by Shterna
Goldbloom

RL: I wrote a lot of poems as a kid. My mother wrote poems, too. And we'd write poems together.

RNM: Like you, Carole also experienced a lot of physical pain and endured multiple surgeries. You and she share this connection.

RL: Yes, but the book is not about my pain. If anything, it's about women in pain and how we [are told] to tough it out, that it isn't real. You should just endure it ... The medical establishment doesn't have the time and tools [for us]. Women are getting dumped into situations where they self-medicate.

RNM: There's a lot of denial about pain. But there has also been a lot of misunderstanding of disability. Do you think that we're doing better as a society on this score?

RL: It seems to me to be so dependent on where you are. I love New York. I used to joke that I wasn't the weirdest person on the block. But now in New York, I get the "look."

RNM: What does that entail?

RL: People know that you're not supposed to say you're a freak, so they'll say, "I'll pray for you. Or, I hope you get better." When you're out on the street, they'll pull up in their car and say, "Do you need a ride to the hospital?" You're bopping along, and you're not prepared. I think about what Black people go through with microaggressions. You're always bracing yourself for someone to say something awful.

RNM: Let's end on a congratulatory note. You mentioned that *Golem*, which has received uniformly positive reviews, along with some nice media coverage—particularly the Scott Simon interview on NPR's *Weekend Edition*—started out as a document to your family to explain the body of your work. How did it morph?

RL: I was invited to apply to the MacDowell [artists colony]. I was completely shocked when I got in. I had to send in a writing sample, and I thought they were being nice to the cripple. Then, after I published an article in the *New York Times*, this agent called me out of the blue. I hadn't made one tiny step [to secure a book agent]. I figure if I was really lucky, I'd sell my book to an academic press.

Editor's Notes: CJH Editor's feature article about Riva Lehrer will appear in the December issue of Chicago's *JUF News*. Google Riva Lehrer and NPR to access Scott Simon's interview with the artist.



Totems and Familiars: Nomy Lamm. Artwork © 2020 by Riva Lehrer, from *Golem Girl*

Ode to the Indie Bookstore

continued from front page

would have been attracted to histories by Barbara Tuchman or Joseph Lash, fiction by Grace Paley and I.B. Singer, and poetry by Marge Piercy.

An outing with my mother to Gold's would have involved lunch at one of Cedarhurst's plentiful and interesting eateries, along with possible stops at the Cricket Shop for men and boys (where my Bar Mitzvah suit was purchased) and at Marvin's Mart, a family jewelry store started by Marvin Zuckerman in the late 1940s, which endured for three generations before closing in 2006. My mother often found a pretty bauble there for herself.

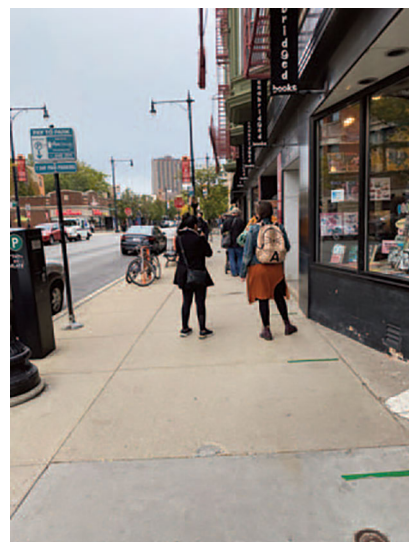
By the time I was a young adult in Chicago in the mid-1980s—during and after graduate school at Northwestern—I had already become an habitu  of the city's finest bookstores. Stuart Brent Books on Michigan Avenue, conveniently located near the Chicago Avenue L station and my journalism classes on Lake Shore Drive, was an elegant shop, filled with literary morsels and presided over by the dapper, effusive Mr. Brent, who retained his West Side Jewish dialect. Sadly, the store closed in the 1990s, as that strip of Michigan Avenue became better known for high-end retailers. "I, Stuart Brent, have become an anachronism," he said, upon closing his doors," reported the *Chicago Tribune* in its 2010 obituary for Mr. Brent, who lived to 98.

Stuart Brent was hardly the only Chicago book emporium casualty of that era. The majestic Kroch's and Brentano's flagship store on Wabash Avenue, which stocked thousands of titles, closed its doors in 1995. And a tiny gem of a bookstore on Dempster Street in Evanston, Platypus Books, lovingly curated by a silver-haired, stately woman named Marguerite, who had a penchant, and great taste, for obscure titles, closed around the same time.

Fortunately, one of my favorite bookstores in Chicago, Unabridged Bookstores, is going strong after 40 years. I remember discovering there in the early 1990s a delightful novel about Southern Jews, *The Exact Image of Mother*, by a writer new to me, Patty Friedmann, and, on an earlier occasion, running to the store with my mother, who was visiting from New York, to purchase a Jewish-style cookbook/memoir by Lora Brody, who had just been interviewed on NPR: *Cooking with Memories*. Thirty years later, I still have those two books, and I still patronize Unabridged, only six blocks from my home.

Wherever I have lived over the past 35 years—Los Angeles and San Francisco, as well as Chicago—I have always made it my business to be in close proximity to at least one decent independent bookstore. And no matter where I have traveled—Miami, London, the Berkshires, New York, Seattle, Paris, Toronto, Washington, D.C.—I have visited the local bookshops. They are one of my causes, as important to me as a good cup of coffee, a decent bagel, dark chocolate, and the New York Times—in other words, an essential part of my diet.

As I write this paean, so much remains uncertain in this country, around the globe, and in the most miniscule plot of the planet called my life. But of this I remain sure: If there is an independent bookstore nearby, I will soon be stepping over its threshold to brighten my day.



During this era of COVID, patrons line up for entry into the CJHS Editor's favorite Chicago bookstore, Unabridged, which is going strong after four decades.



CJHS' Editor, Robert Nagler Miller, in the company of a few of his books

Children's Book Corner

This year, the *CJH* Book Issue is pleased to include selections intended for younger readers. We asked several experts in the field—all members of Jewish Library Network of Metropolitan Chicago (JLNMC)—to weigh in on the best children's books about Jewish Chicago by Jewish Chicagoans. Here are some of their choices.



Librarian
Rachel Kamin

From Rachel Kamin, Director, the Joseph and Mae Gray Cultural and Learning Center, North Suburban Synagogue Beth El, Highland Park:

My Chocolate Year: A Novel with 12 Recipes

by Charlotte Herman; illustrated by LeUyen Pham.

In 1945 Chicago, as her Jewish family anxiously awaits news of relatives left behind in Europe, 10-year-old Dorrie learns new recipes in the hope of winning a baking competition at school. The book includes recipes for various foods—from chocolate pudding to chocolate *mandelbroit*. Herman, a prolific children's book author, was born and raised in Chicago and lives in the metro area. Appropriate for elementary school-age children. 163 pages.

Annie Shapiro and the Clothing Workers' Strike

by Marlene Targ Brill; illustrated by Jamel Akib.

A fictionalized account of the real-life Annie Shapiro, who was the catalyst for the major 1910–1911 garment workers' strike in Chicago. Children's book author Brill, a native of the West Rogers Park neighborhood of Chicago, resides in Wilmette. Appropriate for second- to fourth-graders. 48 pages.

Is it Night or Day?

by Fern Schumer Chapman.

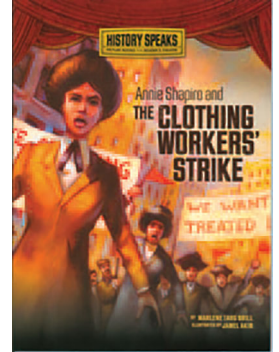
In 1938, Edith Westerfeld, a young German Jew, is sent by her parents to Chicago, where she lives with an aunt and uncle and tries to assimilate into American culture, all the while worrying about her parents and mourning the loss of everything she has ever known. Based on the author's mother's experience, this award-winning book includes an afterword about a little-known program that brought 1,200 Jewish children to safety during World War II. The Chicago-based Chapman is a journalist as well as author. Appropriate for ages 12 to 15. 256 pages.

From Robbin Katzin, librarian, Hillel Torah North Suburban Day School, Skokie:

Vive la Paris

by Esmei Raji Codell.

Fifth-grader Paris learns some lessons about dealing with bullies of all kinds. She considers how to stop a classmate from beating up her brother at school, and she receives lessons about the Holocaust from her piano teacher, Mrs. Rosen, a survivor of the Shoah. This book has Jewish Chicago content, including a visit to what has to be Waldheim Cemetery. Adds JLNMC President Shelley Riskin about the author: "Esmei is a local author who is (as far as I know) still a librarian in Chicago Public Schools after getting her degree in library science. Before that, she was at Baker Demonstration School in Wilmette and owned a delightful bookshop in Rogers Park. She wrote a great adult book, *Educating Esmei*. It's still in print." Appropriate for readers ages 9 to 12. 224 pages



Marlene Targ Brill

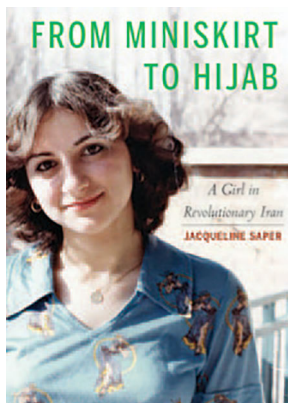
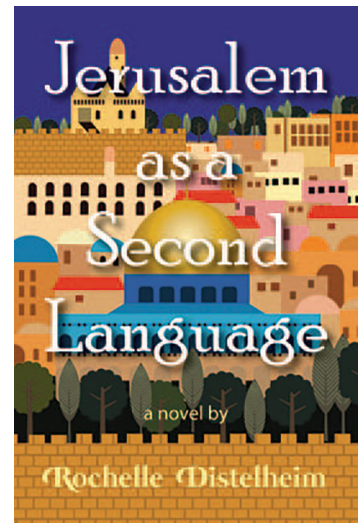


Fern Schumer
Chapman

New and Notable

Jerusalem as a Second Language. By Rochelle Distelheim. Aubade Publishing, 2020.

Sadly, the Chicago-born fiction writer and journalist, who resided in Highland Park for decades, did not live to see her second novel published. Distelheim, who received a number of awards over the years for her short stories, died this past spring at 92 of a chronic heart condition. Happily, she has written a witty, incisive, and illuminating novel about the trials and travails of Russian-Jewish émigrés' attempts to become part of the fabric of Israeli life. At the core of her heartfelt book is this question: How do Russian Jews, most of whom were never given an opportunity to learn about their religion, history, and culture, live comfortably in a Jewish state? Through rich character portraits, she allows readers to form their own answers. Distelheim was married for 66 years to the late Dr. Irving Distelheim, a Chicago dermatologist who had been a member of the CJHS. 290 pages.

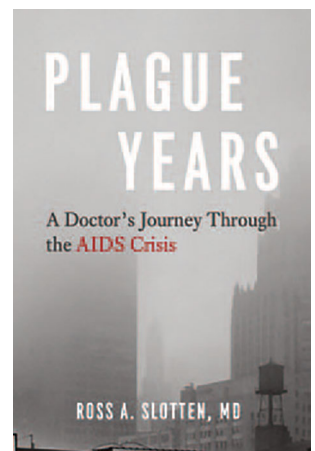


From Miniskirt to Hijab: A Girl in Revolutionary Iran. By Jacqueline Saper. Potomac Books of the University of Nebraska Press, 2018.

In this harrowing memoir, the author, a longtime Wilmette resident, describes her Jewish girlhood in Iran—a carefree and idyllic existence under the Shah, followed by an atmosphere of threats, terror, and unremitting antisemitism and anti-westernism once the Ayatollah Khomeini came to power. Saper and her family were among the few thousand Jews who remained in Iran—once the home to a thriving community of 100,000—by the outset of the Iran-Iraq War in 1980, and she describes in clear-eyed yet chilling detail her family's escape to the United States in 1987. She is also perceptive and fair-minded about the Shah's role in hastening the Islamic Revolution of 1979. 219 pages.

Plague Years: A Doctor's Journey Through the AIDS Crisis. By Ross A. Slotten, MD, The University of Chicago Press, 2020.

Slotten was a young gay physician in Chicago in the early 1980s when many of his patients, young and gay themselves, began coming to him with a host of symptoms that most physicians had heretofore only read about in medical textbooks. With compassion and the wisdom that comes with experience, Slotten travels back in time to remember some of his earliest AIDS patients. He also makes himself vulnerable throughout the book, providing candid self-assessments of what he views as his own tics and failings in relation to his personal and professional lives. The author, son of a Jewish grocer, grew up mostly in Wilmette. A top student at New Trier High School, he graduated from Stanford and returned to Chicago to attend Northwestern University Medical School. 214 pages.

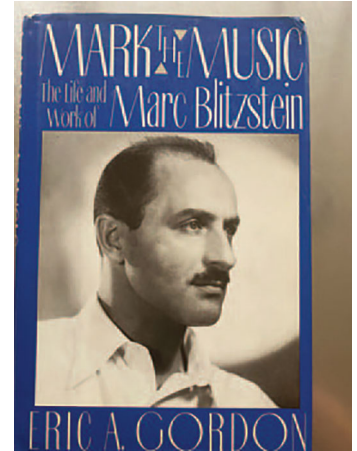


Books by New CJHS Members

Mark the Music: The Life and Work of Mark Blitzstein. By Eric A. Gordon.
St. Martin's Press, 1989.

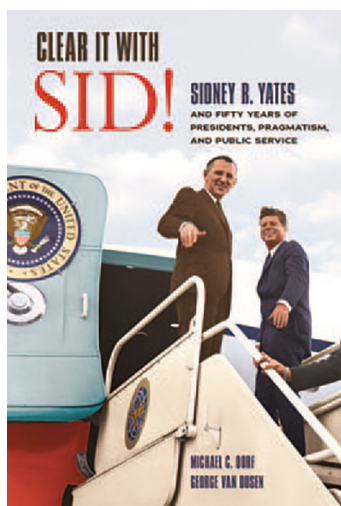
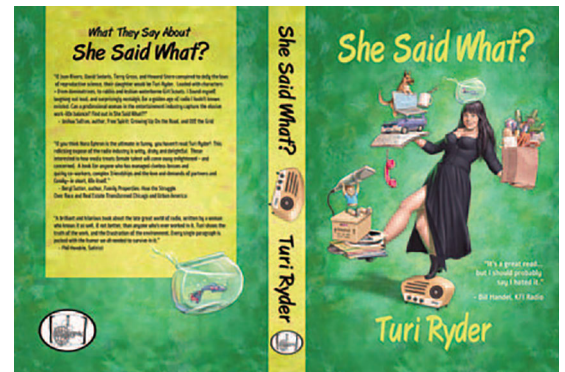
American Jewish composer Mark Blitzstein is best known for his 1937 Broadway hit *The Cradle Will Rock*—which actor Tim Robbins helped younger theater and music lovers to familiarize themselves with in his eponymous 1999 film—as well as the opera *Regina*, based on playwright Lillian Hellman's *The Little Foxes*. But his accomplishments were manifold, including the definitive translation of the Brecht-Weill *Threepenny Opera*. In his Sunday *New York Times Book Review*, critic Don Shewey called the book a “thoroughly researched biography” in which a “fascinating array of famous names and stories decorates the pages.” 605 pages.

Gordon is also the co-author of **Ballad of an American: The Autobiography of Earl Robinson.** Scarecrow Press, 1997. 475 pages.



She Said What? (A Life on the Air). By Turi Ryder.
Tortoise Books, 2019.

These vignettes, based on the author's professional experiences, wryly explore the challenges that women have faced in radio, a male-dominated industry. The writer grew up in Chicago and its northern suburbs, but she spent some early years in Kansas, where and her family learned some hard lessons about antisemitism in the heartland. Of Ryder, fellow scribe Jonathan Safran wrote, “If Joan Rivers, David Sedaris, Terry Gross, and Howard Stern conspired to defy the laws of reproductive medicine, their daughter would be Turi Ryder.” 555 pages.



Clear It with Sid! Sidney R. Yates and Fifty Years of Presidents, Pragmatism, and Public Service.

By Michael C. Dorf and George Van Dusen.
University of Illinois Press, 2019.

The co-writers both worked for the late Sidney Yates, a longtime United States representative, and their highly researched book includes extensive documentation of Yates' efforts on behalf of his constituents, the Jewish community, and democratic values. Van Dusen, the longtime Mayor of Skokie, Illinois, is a CJHS member. 288 pages. (The co-authors presented a Zoom program about Congressman Yates this past October. A synopsis of their presentation appears on page of this issue.)

More Books by CJHS Members

Chicago Sketches. By Richard Reeder. AMIKA Press, 2012.

New Art in the 60s and 70s: Redefining Reality. By Anne Rorimer. Thames & Hudson, 2004.

The Fate of Holocaust Memories: Transmission and Family Dialogues, By Chaya Roth, with the voices of Hannah Diller and Gitta Fajerstein. Amazon Kindle, 2013.

An Accidental Anarchist: How the Killing of a Humble Jewish Immigrant by Chicago's Chief of Police Exposed the Conflict Between Law & Order and Civil Rights in Early 20th Century America. By Walter Roth and Joe Kraus. Academy Chicago Publishers, 1998.



Avengers and Defenders: Glimpses of Chicago's Jewish Past. By Walter Roth. Academy Chicago Publishers, 2008.

Looking Backward: True Stories from Chicago's Jewish Past. By Walter Roth. Academy Chicago Publishers, 2002.

Mollie's War: The Letters of a World War II WAC in Europe. By Mollie Weinstein Schaffer and Cydee Schaffer. McFarland Publishing, 2010.

The Shul's the Thing

Synagogues of Chicago. Edited by Irving Cutler, Norman D. Schwartz, and Sidney Sorkin. Project supervised by Clare Greenberg, 1991.

A Walk to the Shul: Chicago Synagogues of Lawndale and Stops Along the Way. By Bea Kraus and Norman D. Schwartz, 2003.

Doors of Redemption: The Forgotten Synagogues of Chicago and Other Communal Buildings. Photographed and edited by Robert A. Packer. Booksurge, 2006.

Chicago's Forgotten Synagogues. Robert A. Packer, 2007.

Discovering Second Temple Jerusalem: The Scriptures and Stories That Shaped Early Judaism. By Malka Z. Simkovich. Jewish Publication Society, 2018.

The Making of Jewish Universalism: From Exile to Alexandria. By Malka Z. Simkovich. Lexington Press, 2016.

A Jewish Colonel in the Civil War: Marcus M. Spiegel of the Ohio Volunteers. Edited by Jean Powers Soman and Frank L. Byrne. University of Nebraska Press, 1995.

Irma: A Chicago Woman's Story, 1871-1966. By Ellen F. Steinberg. University of Iowa, 2004.

Learning to Cook in 1898: A Chicago Culinary Manual. By Ellen F. Steinberg. Wayne State University, 2007.

From the Jewish Heartland: Two Centuries of Midwest Foodways. By Ellen F. Steinberg and Jack H. Prost. University of Illinois, 2011.

Blossom Winters Is Driving on the Los Angeles Freeways. By Albert Zimble. CreateSpace, 2012.

Where We've Lived

Downtown Naperville. By Jodi Hirsch Blackman. Arcadia Publishing, 2009.

Chicago's Jewish West Side. By Irving Cutler. 2009.

The Jews of Chicago: From Shtetl to Suburb. By Irving Cutler. University of Illinois Press, 1996.

Creating Chicago's North Shore: A Suburban History. By Michael H. Ebner. University of Chicago Press, 1988.

Avondale and Chicago's Polish Village. By Jacob Kaplan et al. Arcadia Publishing, 2014.

Logan Square. By Jacob Kaplan et al. Arcadia Publishing, 2018.

East Lakeview. By Matt Nickerson. Arcadia Publishing, 2017.

Lakeview. By Matt Nickerson. Arcadia Publishing, 2014.

African Americans in Glencoe: The Little Migration. By Robert A. Sideman. The History Press, 2009.

And the Winner Is ...

It is by pure happenstance only that the annual announcement of Nobel Prize winners precedes by just a month of so the issuance of the *CJH* yearly book issue. Because this year's Nobel Prize in Literature has gone to a Jewish writer, poet Louise Glück, we take delight in offering her a hearty mazel tov and urging readers to check out her books, which include *Ararat*, *The Wild Iris*, *Faithful and Virtuous Night*, and *Averno*.

A little background about Glück (whose name rhymes with thick), who was born in 1943: She grew up in the Five Towns section of Long Island, an affluent and predominantly Jewish section of suburban New York City consisting of five villages and towns (Hewlett, Woodmere, Cedarhurst, Lawrence, and Inwood). According to the Jewish Virtual Library website, her paternal grandparents were Hungarian Jews, and her father and his brother-in-law invented the X-acto knife, on which her father held the original patent.

Glück never graduated from Sarah Lawrence or from Columbia, where she studied with Stanley Kunitz, another award-winning Jewish American poet, whom she considers her mentor, but she went on to a flourishing career as a published poet and teacher at Goddard, Williams, and Yale. In 2003, she was named the twelfth U.S. Poet Laureate. She has also received the Pulitzer Prize and a National Book Award.

Glück is hardly the first Jew of letters to have been so honored. The Nobel Prize in Literature has been bestowed 117 times since its inception in 1901, and 16 of its winners have been Jewish or of Jewish heritage—a disproportionate 14 percent, given that Jews make up only 0.2 percent of the population worldwide. The honorees' birth countries and languages in which they have written represent the diasporic history of the Jews.

Jewish Nobel Prize Winners in Literature

1910 Paul von Heyse (Jewish mother, non-Jewish father). Born in Germany; wrote in German
 1927 Henri Bergson. Born in France; wrote in French
 1958 Boris Pasternak. Born in Russia; lived in the Soviet Union; wrote in Russian
 1966 S.Y. Agnon. Born in Austria-Hungary; lived in Israel; wrote in Hebrew
 1966 Nelly Sachs. Born in Germany; lived in Sweden; wrote in German
 1976 Saul Bellow. Born in Canada; lived in the United States; wrote in English
 1978 Isaac Bashevis Singer. Born in Poland; lived in the United States; wrote in Yiddish
 1981 Elias Canetti. Born in Bulgaria; lived in England; wrote in German
 1987 Joseph Brodsky. Born in the Soviet Union; lived in the United States; wrote in Russian and English
 1991 Nadine Gordimer. Born in South Africa; wrote in English
 2002 Imre Kertesz. Born in Hungary; wrote in Hungarian
 2004 Elfriede Jelinek (Jewish father, non-Jewish mother). Born in Austria; writes in German
 2005 Harold Pinter. Born in England; wrote in English
 2014 Patrick Modiano (Jewish father, non-Jewish mother). Born in France; writes in French
 2016 Bob Dylan. Born in the United States; writes in English
 2020 Louise Glück. Born in the United States; writes in English

With Sincere Apologies

The editor of *CJH* deeply regrets the omission of a critical paragraph in Dr. Irving Cutler's article "Jews on Chicago's Skid Row During the Great Depression," which appeared in the Summer 2020 issue of *CJH*. He apologizes to Dr. Cutler for this error, and he is pleased to make amends by reprinting the paragraph here:

"My father's two newsstands were surrounded by Jewish-owned businesses. One newsstand was in front of Silverman's shoe store. Owing to the lack of business during the Depression, the store's owner spent much of the day playing pinochle with a few of the neighborhood's elderly pensioners. My father and I would eat our lunch in his store; sometimes we'd come inside when it was bitterly cold."

Program Brief: October Zoom Presentation

Yates Allies Present “Clear It with Sid!”

Dozens of CJHS members and friends logged on to the Society’s October 18 Zoom program featuring member George Van Dusen, the Mayor of Skokie, and his co-author, attorney Michael C. Dorf, who discussed “Clear It with Sid! Sidney R. Yates and Fifty Years of Presidents, Pragmatism, and Public Service,” their new book about their late boss, who served as a representative to the United States Congress for almost five decades.

Van Dusen, who served for decades as Yates’ director of district operations, and Dorf, Yates’ special counsel and campaign chairman for many years, talked about their employer’s many legislative accomplishments, which included saving the National Endowment for the Arts from extinction to championing Israel and the establishment of the United States Holocaust Museum. As the éminence grise among his Jewish peers in the House of Representatives, Yates was also sought after by many Presidents for his sage counsel on matters relating to Jewish voters. President Jimmy Carter, in fact, relied heavily on Yates in brokering the Camp David Accords between Egypt and Israel

Dorf and Van Dusen devoted a not insignificant amount of their talk to how Yates, a progressive Democrat who represented Illinois’ Chicago lakefront

and northern suburbs, was betrayed by President Kennedy. Yates had been an avid and energetic campaigner on behalf of Kennedy when the up-and-comer ran successfully both for the United States Senate from Massachusetts and for President. But when Yates ran for the Senate seat held by Republican Everett Dirksen of Illinois, Kennedy, by then President, not so subtly abandoned his political allegiances and threw his support to Dirksen, who won re-election. As Dorf and Van Dusen recounted, Yates never forgot that snubbing. The one positive coming out of that bitter episode, they said, is that it made Yates all that much wiser about the frequently nasty business of the body politic. “He became a much better politician after the Kennedy betrayal,” Dorf said.



The late Sidney R. Yates

For more information about “Clear It with Sid!,” see the entry for the book under the “Our Authors” section.

CJHS members... YASHER KOACH!

*The Hebrew phrase means
“More Power to You.”*

Dale Amdur serves as editor of *Morasha*, the Jewish Genealogical Society of Illinois newsletter, which just received the first-place award for newsletters in the International Society of Family History Writers and Editors’ 2020 Excellence in Writing Competition.

Karen Kaplan is a regular columnist for Chabad’s chabad.com website, where she offers thoughtful, personal, and humorous reflections.

Leah Polin delivered “A Panorama of Great Jewish Women from the 15th Century Through the 21st Century” to the NA’AMAT Chesed Chapter of Palm Beach County this November.

Rabbi Moshe Simkovich is co-teaching “Rhythms of Jewish Living and Purposes of Jewish Living,” an online Zoom course offered by the Florence Melton School of Jewish Learning, which creates adult learning curriculum at the Melton Center at Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

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YASHER KOACH!

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The documentary “Driving West Rogers Park: Chicago’s Once and Future Jewish Neighborhood” by filmmaker **Beverly Siegel** is now available for viewing online: at www.jndcchicago.org. Siegel reports that the film, which was partly underwritten by the CJHS and premiered at the CJHS’ 40th anniversary event, is a hit ... quite literally. So far, it has received about 8,000 hits—many from Mather High School alumni, who appreciate coverage of their old neighborhood. Siegel also wrote and directed the award-winning CJHS documentary “Romance of a People: The First 100 Years of Jewish History in Chicago,” which was seen on WTTW as a freestanding special for four years, and produced “From Sears to Eternity: The Julius Rosenwald Story,” which aired as part of WTTW’s Chicago Stories series.



A scene from Beverly Siegel’s “Driving West Rogers Park: Chicago’s Once and Future Neighborhood,” which can be viewed online.

Letters to the Society

In response to Dr. Irving Cutler’s article, “Jews on Skid Row During the Great Depression,” published in our Summer 2020 issue, we received this letter from one of Dr. Cutler’s former Chicago State University students, Aaron S. Williams, a diplomat who went on to become the Director of the Peace Corps under President Barack Obama:

“Thank you for sharing those stories. I really enjoyed reading this vivid portrait of life then. Also, it brought back some memories for me of a different era on Maxwell Street in the 1950s. As a young boy, I used to accompany my uncle almost every Saturday on his trips to Maxwell Street, where we would buy clothes and magazines. It was a great adventure, and I can still remember the sounds and the smells and eating Polish sausage. I recall the hubbub and noise in the streets, people milling about, and bargaining in and around the pushcarts and the stores. Like you, I also marvel at the gentrification that has occurred in this area. Who could have imagined this total transformation?”

“Also, the description of the guy from Macedonia is interesting, because I traveled to Macedonia to visit the Peace Corps program there, one of our most productive in eastern Europe. I developed a good relationship with then President Professor Gjorge Ivanov. (He was a law professor.) He was very gracious and took me on a tour of one of Marshall Tito’s summer retreats on a beautiful lake there. When he came to Washington on an official visit, I hosted him at Peace Corps headquarters and awarded him a special Peace Corps medal in recognition of his support of our volunteers. Of course, following the longstanding dispute with Greece over the name, that nation is now called the Republic of North Macedonia.”

Aaron Williams
Reston, Virginia

***“As a young boy,
I used to accompany
my uncle almost
every Saturday on
his trips to Maxwell
Street, where we
would buy clothes
and magazines.”
—Aaron Williams,
Former Peace Corps
Director***

The Society also received correspondence from our most geographically distant member, life member Felicia Francisci, who lives in Paris. She wrote:

“I discovered your website and the amazing work of the Chicago Jewish Historical Society by doing research on my own genealogy. I didn’t know then that part of my ancestors lived in Chicago.

“Here is some information about my family:

“I was born in London, England, in 1972 to a French Catholic father and a Jewish mother who was born and raised in England. Her father, Leo Ponte, was a Sephardic Jew from Morocco, and her mother, Rosie Aptaker, was an Ashkenazic Jew from Ukraine. Being very proud of such a multicultural genealogy, I am working hard at finding as much information as I can about my ancestors, which led me to the Chicago Jewish Historical Society.

“My grandmother, Rosie Aptaker, was born in Reading, England, in 1917. She was the daughter of David Apteker, also known as Davis Aptaker (1878–1959), and Rebecca Osberg, also known as Hossberg and Hosburg (1889–1931). As it appears from the research I’ve done so far, at least a few members of Rebecca’s family ended up in Chicago, including her mother, Libby, also known as Libbie and Lilian, who apparently remarried there.

“My great-grandmother, Rebecca Aptaker (born Osberg), passed away in London at 40 years old, leaving 12 children behind, among whom was my grandmother Rosie. I had been looking for information about the parents of Rebecca Osberg for a long time and thought I would find them buried somewhere in the United Kingdom. I could not find any information about her father, Henry or Harry Hossberg, Osberg, or Hosburg, but I did find the grave of Rebecca’s mother, Libby ... in Chicago! She is buried at Waldheim.

“By the time my great-great grandmother, Libby, passed away in Chicago, her married name had changed from Osberg to Zevin, which I gather means that she had been married a first time (probably in the United Kingdom) to my great-grandfather, Harry or Henry Aptaker, then a second time in Chicago, possibly to someone named Mordecai Zevin.

“It also seems that she has had other children from this second union, but I wasn’t able to find much about Libby’s life in Chicago. Perhaps the Society could help me find out some information about the Osberg/Zevin part of my family in Chicago or point me in the direction of a genealogist who is familiar with researching the Jewish community of Chicago?”

Felicia Francisci
Paris, France

Editor’s Note: We referred Ms. Francisci to the Jewish Genealogical Society of Illinois. In addition, Ms. Francisci has discovered through her own research that she may be distantly related to one of our Society members. We have put them in touch with each other. If Society readers have useful information for Ms. Francisci, they should contact CJH Editor Robert Nagler Miller at: robertnaglermiller@gmail.com. He will forward the information to her.



The Waldheim Cemetery gravestone of Libby Zevin, great-great-grandmother of Society life member Felicia Francisci of Paris.

A Tribute to Dan Sharon

The CJHS mourns the passing of Dan Sharon, who died this past June at age 77. Sharon served diligently on the Society's Board from 2008 to 2014.

But beyond his allegiance to the CJHS, he was a font of information about all things Jewish. Those who met Sharon at his day job—he was Senior Reference Librarian at the Asher Library of the Spertus Institute for Jewish Learning and Leadership for more than 35 years—would marvel at his breadth of knowledge, his insatiable curiosity, and his eagerness to help others acquire the facts, figures, and details they sought.

Two CJHS members, CPA and author James Finn and writer and English professor Mimi Rosenbush, offer their own personal recollections of Sharon, who is survived by his sister and her children.

Remembering Dan Sharon

by James Finn

I first met Dan in November 2007. This meeting was at the Spertus Institute's old Asher Library, two doors down from where it is now. I told Dan I wanted to write an encyclopedia about the great Jews of Chicago. He immediately pulled out the voluminous Hyman Meites' *History of the Chicago Jews*. Read it from cover to cover, Dan said, and it will keep you busy for a while.

The last Wednesday I saw him at his job—he was about to retire, and I always went to Asher on Wednesdays, except during tax season—Dan showed me a huge stack of books. He had taken the time to pull over 30 of them. Dan said, there you are, Jim. These reference books will give you continued work for quite some time. Just stay out of trouble.

On May 28, 2015, my book, "Remembering Chicago's Jews: An Encyclopedia of the Early Years 1832–1920," was published. On the page before the table of contents, it reads, "Assisted by Dan Sharon, Reference Librarian Emeritus. If I ever finish the sequel it will be in memory of Dan."

After Dan retired, we started a wonderful tradition and relationship. We met once a month on a Thursday. I would pick Dan up—he never drove or maybe never owned a car—and we would go out for lunch. Of course, it had to be kosher, very strictly. We wound up having quite a few choices on the North Side of Chicago and close-by suburbs. After all Dan did for me with my books, without ever accepting any remuneration, I insisted on always treating him to lunch.

We had a number of topics to discuss during each lunch and, of course, in the car. Dan always had a list of two pages of items on his agenda. We agreed on everything political. We actually agreed on everything religious, while never talking about the traditions of his Orthodoxy and my Reform Judaism. Nonetheless, I could never get him to agree that a Jew who believed in *tikkun olam* could never be a Republican.



The late Dan Sharon

Photo by JUF News, republished with permission.

A Tribute to Dan Sharon

I so looked forward to our monthly Thursday get-togethers.

I respected and admired him so for his tremendous knowledge of Chicago Jewish history.

I so loved him for his wonderful companionship.

I miss him, and a little part of my life that is gone cannot be replaced.

I will always remember him as long as I live.

Dan Sharon: A Librarian's Librarian

by Mimi Rosenbush

My dad often told the story of a novice sailor who bought his first boat. Wearing a yachtsman's blue blazer replete with insignia, the man went to visit his elderly Jewish mother. Proudly, he turned to her and said, "Ma, I bought a boat! I'm a captain!" His mother paused a beat and then replied, "But son, by captains, are you a captain?"

I thought of that story when I joined in on Zoom to watch the June 24 funeral of Dan Sharon, a diminutive, light-haired Jewish man who was a giant among librarians.

For more than 30 years, Dan was *the* Research Librarian at Chicago's Asher Library at the Spertus Institute. A 1995 article about Dan from the *Chicago Tribune* describes his Jewish and somewhat inauspicious education. He went to the Chicago Jewish Academy, when it was still on the West Side of Chicago, and to Amundsen High School. He graduated from Wright Junior College and then Roosevelt University. In 1971, Dan received his master's degree in library science from Rosary College in River Forest, Illinois. He was hired right away by what would become the Asher Library, and he remained there until his retirement.

I first met Dan more than 40 years ago at the Asher Library, when I was re-searching ideas for a Jewish documentary film. My questions set him in motion. He would disappear around the corner and then reappear with a source, then disappear again only to come back with another and another. And not just the texts themselves. He knew who was doing what in Jewish creative and academic worlds. Ideas seemed to appear in imaginary thought bubbles around his head.

When he wasn't helping visitors find materials in the library, he was fielding phone calls from all over the country. Through word of mouth, people knew to call Dan. He was a maven, a connector.

Dan did not embrace even Luddite-proof technology like a basic flip phone. He didn't have email; he didn't have a computer. His six-mile neighborhood walks were not accompanied by podcasts. And he was easy to spot on Touhy Avenue—a quick gait, oddly accompanied by a slightly stooped posture.

There was something ageless about Dan. I was surprised to learn that he was born in 1943. Somehow, I had imagined him to be younger. It was as if immersion in knowledge and books made him timeless: beyond the stationary hold of relevance.

Dan was a humble and solitary guy, but he could be instantly engaged by worthwhile conversation. Ask him a question, and you could almost see the inquiry ignite his ample intellect.

“Dan was a humble and solitary guy, but he could be instantly engaged by worthwhile conversation. Ask him a question, and you could almost see the inquiry ignite his ample intellect.”

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A Librarian's Librarian

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I just learned that Dan, in recent years, had befriended his next-door neighbor—a younger man who is a veteran on disability. Dan would share books, slide articles under his neighbor's door, and accompany him on the bus to museums, quietly showing kindness without much notice.

I wasn't surprised.

When I saw Dan in the years after he had reluctantly retired from the Asher Library, he'd be walking in West Rogers Park or shopping in the neighborhood. I always greeted him enthusiastically. Dan, I'd say, cornering him at Hungarian Kosher Foods, it's so good to see you. You were and always will be the librarian's librarian. The best of the best. He'd smile, shyly, and look at me with his piercing blue eyes—you're Mimi Rosenbush.

It was as if he were locating me on a shelf, thrilled that he had discovered the source of praise.

How strange to be moved by the Zoom funeral of someone I knew so casually. It was a quiet funeral, as they often are these days, and I shouldn't have been surprised that there weren't many of us online. After all, there wasn't even a newspaper obituary.

I could even imagine Dan observing, in his North Side Chicago accent, that he was "just" a research librarian. And with a Jewish shrug, he'd remark—*nu*, what did you expect?

To me, he was deserving of some fanfare because there is greatness in what he did. Dan furthered research, inquiry, and study; he was a discoverer, an adventurer in knowledge.

And he was one of those rare people who was perfectly matched to his job: By librarians, he was truly a librarian, par excellence.

Gifts of Meaning And Consequence

The Society appreciates the generosity of the following individuals and foundations, whose recent major gifts have enabled us to carry our important work:

Dr. Malcolm Hast and family, in loving memory of former Board member and President Dr. Adele Hast z"l

Debbie Krupp and the Leo J. and Roslyn Krupp Foundation

Benjamin J. Rosenthal Foundation

Dr. Chaya Roth and family, in loving memory of former CJHS President Walter Roth z"l

In addition, we wish to acknowledge those individuals and families whose \$1,000 life memberships demonstrate their commitment to the Society's mission:

Charlotte Adelman and Bernard L. Schwartz, Wilmette

Norma and Lee z"l Braude, Chicago

Felicia Francisci, Paris, France

Marvin and Rosalie Fruchter, Chicago

Dr. Malcolm and Dr. Adele z"l Hast, Chicago

Dan and Gini Maxime, Las Vegas, Nevada

Tom Meites, Chicago

Robert and Marjorie Mintz Rosenbaum, Chicago

Dr. Chaya and Walter z"l Roth, Chicago

A. Sue Samuels, Chicago

Linda Soreff Siegel, Glencoe

Mark Zivin and Margie Morrison Zivin, Evanston

If you are interested in furthering the CJHS' goals through a significant gift, or wish to honor a

CJHS life memberships, along with gifts in honor or memory of a loved one, are life-sustaining, enabling us to transmit the history of our forebears to future generations

loved one or make a tribute gift in his or her memory, you can do so through the membership page of our website. You can also mail checks, payable to Chicago Jewish Historical Society, to the CJHS at P.O. Box 597004, Chicago, IL 60659-7004.

After consulting your attorney or financial advisor, you may also wish to plan a gift in the form of a bequest. The Society would be pleased to discuss this with you. You may contact Co-Presidents Jerry Levin and Dr. Rachelle Gold to express your interest in making such a gift. Their email addresses are, respectively: jlevin@chicagojewishhistory.org and rgold@chicagojewishhistory.org

Thank you for your continued support of the Society through your memberships and gifts. We are particularly appreciative of your dedication to the CJHS during these challenging times.

CJHS Names Patti Ray Membership Chair

The CJHS is pleased to announce that Board member Patti Ray has been named Membership Chair. In this capacity, Ray, who has been affiliated with the organization for five years, will work closely with Board Co-Presidents Dr. Rachelle Gold and Jerold Levin to ensure that the Society remain a vital presence among Jewish nonprofits in the Chicago area. She will assume a leadership role in developing innovative approaches to maintain and grow the CJHS' membership in the years to come.

A longtime and engaged participant in Chicago's Jewish community, Ray is the Founding Hillel Director Emerita at Loyola University Chicago and the Hebrew Program Mentor of Loyola's Department of Modern Languages and Literatures. She is also the Advisor to the Loyola-Israel Student Alliance and the Secretary of Loyola's Phi Beta Kappa Chapter, as well as Loyola's liaison to the Phi Beta Kappa Association of the Chicago Area. In addition, she is on the Board of the DePaul College of Law Center for Jewish Law & Judaic Studies



Ray's life work has been as a Hillel professional on college campuses. She became the first female Hillel director, when, in 1975, she was appointed to that position at the University of Illinois Chicago Circle (now known as the University of Illinois at Chicago). In 1987, Ray founded the Hillel at Loyola University Chicago, which honored her in 2007 for two decades of service. In a program entitled "20 Years of Learning, Justice, and Faith – Patti Ray at Hillel," she was lauded for her "enthusiasm and encouragement for students. Her efforts have made the Loyola Hillel a shining example of just how well Hillel can work at a Catholic university," reported a JUF publication at that time. She retired from Hillel in 2013, and she is now more focused on academic matters at Loyola University Chicago.

A native of Park Forest, Illinois, where she was part of a small but thriving Jewish community, Ray graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, where she earned her bachelor's degree in the Teaching of English and a master's degree in Contemporary English and American Literature.

Ray is a longtime resident of Skokie. She is married to attorney Allen Ray. They have two children, both of whom are graduates of Chicago area Jewish day schools and high schools, and three grandchildren.

A member of the Modern Orthodox Jewish community, Ray said that she loves the diversity of CJHS membership, which runs the gamut: from secular, Reform, and Reconstructionist Jews to Conservative and Orthodox Jews, as well as many non-Jewish members. In addition, she said, she has nothing but admiration for the people in the Society whom she serves. "They are such creative, unique individuals who are passionate about the intersection of a love of Chicago and Jewish life," she said.

Renew Your Membership Today

Many *CJH* readers have already received an email reminding them that their annual membership fees are due. Others will receive a letter over the next few weeks. They will notice that, once again, the CJHS Board has decided to keep the basic membership fee at \$40. We appreciate the many members who join at higher levels.

The CJHS thanks all of our members for their continued support and encourages them to renew for 2021. If you can give more to support our efforts, or wish to delight a friend or family member with a gift membership, we would be most grateful.

Welcome New Members of the Society

Jacob Boxerman
Chicago, IL

Bonnie Cohen
Chicago, IL

Stanley Jacobson
Newton, MA

Amy Osler Lowenthal
Chicago, IL

Esther Mosak
Chicago, IL

Andrew Schultz
Chicago, IL

Look to the rock from which you were born
הביטו אל-צור הוצבתם



chicago jewish historical society

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THE ANNUAL BOOK ISSUE

- Of Golems and Girls
- Children's Book Corner
- New and Notable Books
- Books by CJHS Members
- Ode to the Indie Bookstore
- A Tribute to Librarian Dan Sharon
- New Membership Chair Patti Ray

Our History and Mission

The Chicago Jewish Historical Society was founded in 1977, and is in part an outgrowth of local Jewish participation in the United States Bicentennial Celebration of 1976.

Forty-four years after its founding, the Society's unique mission continues to be the discovery, collection, and dissemination of information

Tribute Cards for Celebrations or Memorials The card design features the Society's handsome logo. Inside, our mission statement and space for your personal message. Pack of five cards & envelopes \$18.00. Individual cards can be mailed for you from our office at \$5.00 per card, postage included. Mail your order and check to CJHS, P.O. Box 597004, Chicago, IL 60659-7004. You may also order online at our website.

Visit our website www.chicagojewishhistory.org

Pay your membership dues online via PayPal or credit card, or use the printable membership application.

Inquiries: info@chicagojewishhistory.org

All issues of our Society periodical from 1977 to the present are digitized and posted on our website in pdf format. Click on the Publications tab and scroll down through the years. There is also an Index to the issues from 1977 to 2012.

ABOUT THE SOCIETY

about the Jewish experience in the Chicago area through publications, open programs, tours, and outreach to youth.

The Society does not maintain its own archives, but seeks out written, spoken, and photographic records and artifacts and responsibly arranges for their donation to Jewish archives.

Membership in the Society is open to all interested persons and organizations, and includes

- A subscription to the Society's award-winning quarterly journal, *Chicago Jewish History*.
- Free admission to Society public programs. General admission is \$10 per person.
- Membership runs on a calendar year, from January through December. New members joining after July 1 are given an initial membership through December of the following year.

Life Membership	\$1,000
Annual Dues	
Historian	500
Scholar	250
Sponsor	100
Patron	65
Member	40
Student (with I.D.)	10



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