

Association for Canadian Jewish Studies Association des études juives canadiennes



AUTUMN 2012 / 5773 VOLUME 26:2

ACJS BULLETIN

Dear members and friends of the ACJS,

Our recent conference in Water

Our recent conference in Waterloo, Ontario, was well attended and quite successful. Highlights included a keynote address by Professor James Walker entitled "The Jewish Contribution to Human Rights" and the presentation of the Louis Rosenberg Award to Professor Harold Troper for his lifetime achievement in the study of Canadian Jewish history. The Marcia Koven Award for best student paper was awarded to Kata Bohus, a doctoral student from the Central European University in Budapest, for her paper entitled "Standing Together or Staying Apart? Contradictions of Integration among 1956-er Hungarian Jewish Refugees in Toronto."

Planning for our next annual conference is well underway. It will be held at the University of Victoria from June 2 to 4, 2013. The timing of the conference coincides exactly with the celebration of the 150th anniversary of Victoria's Congregation Emanu-El, the oldest surviving synagogue building in continuous use in Canada. We look forward to participating in the community celebration. Please see a general call for papers in this bulletin and on our website and send your proposal to our program chair, Professor Rebecca Margolis.

A call for papers has gone out recently for the next volume of our journal. The editors invite contributions from any field and focused on any aspect of Canadian Jewish life. The editors are particularly interested in receiving fully drafted articles or abstracts for articles that make comparisons between any aspect



DR. RANDAL F. SCHNOOR

of the Canadian Jewish experience in comparison or interacting with Jewries from other nations, and/or comparisons and interactions between Canadian Jews and other Canadian religious or ethnic minorities. Please see page 9 in this bulletin for more information. The editors can be contacted at editor.cjs@gmail.com.

We hope you enjoy this colour version of the ACJS Bulletin, which is now being distributed by email.

If you would still like a hard copy mailed to you, please let us know, and we will be happy to accommodate you.

Wishing you a happy Chanukah season.

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About Us

The Association for Canadian Jewish Studies/l'Association des études juives canadiennes was founded in 1976 as the Canadian Jewish Historical Society/Société d'histoire juive canadienne. Its goal is to encourage scholarly research in Canadian Jewish history, life and culture through academic disciplines.

It is a national association with headquarters in Montreal and is affiliated with historical organizations and institutions throughout Canada.

This newsletter is written for organizations and individuals with a particular interest in Canadian Jewish studies.

Comments, news, announcements, and reviews can be emailed to Susan Landau-Chark at sjlandauchark@yahoo.ca.

The ACJS website: www.acjs-aejc.ca.

President
Randal Schnoor
Vice-President
Barry Stiefel
Treasurer
Robin Bergart
Secretary
Janice Rosen
Past President
Norm Rayvin

Bulletin Editor
Susan Landau-Chark

Bulletin Production
Shirley Muhlstock Brodt

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MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL, BULLETIN DELIVERY & ACJS-AEJC LISTSERVE

PLEASE NOTE...

Bulletins received by email will be in colour, whereas, due to costs, the mailed hard copies will continue to be in black and white.

To notify us of your preference for email over hard copy or vice versa and to confirm your email address, kindly send a brief note to Janice Rosen at acjssecretary@gmail.com.

ALSO...

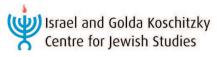
All membership renewals to the Association can now be made online using Paypal. Simply go to www.acjs-aejc.ca to renew. Also, if you have a change in address, email or phone number, please let us know by emailing Janice Rosen at acjssecretary@gmail.com.

Members have asked how to join the ACJS-AEJC Listserve. Click on the following link (or cut and paste or input link into browser): http://groups.yahoo.com/search?query=ACJS&sort=relevance.

The first group that appears on this page is the ACJS-AEJC group. Click on Join This Group, and follow the instructions. Looking forward to "seeing you" on the Listserve.

THANK YOU to the following institutions for their support of the Association for Canadian Jewish Studies: Concordia Institute for Canadian Jewish Studies; Israel and Golda Koschitzky Centre for Jewish Studies (York University); University of Toronto Centre for Jewish Studies; and Vered Jewish Canadian Studies Program (University of Ottawa).









The Grad Corner



We invite new graduates to share their thesis topics and research with ACJS members. Starting off this new column is a summary of David Koffman's dissertation.

DAVID S. KOFFMAN completed his PhD at New York University last spring. His dissertation, *The Jews' Indian: Native Americans in the Jewish Imagination and Experience*, 1850-1950, which won the Salo W. Baron Dissertation Award for the best work on Jewish history and culture in the Americas for the academic year 2011-

JULIUS MEYER 163

Julius Meyer and Pawnee Indians outside Meyer's "Indian Wigwam," a curio shop, Omaha, Nebraska, circa 1879. (American Jewish Archives, N-2538)

2012, offers a new perspective on the Jewish experience of migration and enfranchisement by analyzing Jewish encounters with Native America.

While the mass movement of Jewish migrants to the Americas through the nineteenth century brought social mobility, religious latitude, relative economic security, and the creation of hundreds of new communities to diverse newcomers, it brought political bedlam, cultural destruction and geographic dislocation to Native peoples. His thesis re-examines a fundamental transformative force of modern Jewry – migration – by reading it through the lens of interethnicity, as the context of fin-de-siècle capitalism and imperial expansion gave way to a liberal vision of cultural pluralism during the New Deal era specifically.

The Jews' Indian makes three specific historiographical interventions. First, it reframes Jewish immigration history into the broad context into which immigration properly fits but within which it is rarely cast, namely, colonial expansion. Though Jews fled Europe and Russia as relatively powerless victims of continental imperialism, they

arrived in the U.S. and Canada as relatively powerful agents of colonialism. Second, it complicates Western history and the history of white-Indian relations by rereading it through a Jewish lens. The history of the West, including new Western history, tends to ignore the immigrant dimension of white settlement, and almost completely elides its Jews.

Jews' articulations about, and interactions with, Natives differed from those of other whites in distinct ways: Jews were not particularly motivated by the desire to own land; Jewish men did not sexualize Native women; neither did they missionize to Indians as their Christian settler counterparts did.

Finally, *The Jews' Indian* enriches the story of racerelations in nineteenth and twentieth century America beyond the black-white divide, by making the dynamics of one overlooked inter-ethnic relationship visible.

The intersection – and interaction – of two neither-

white-nor-black minorities has significant implications for a range of topics in the history of modern Jews, including race formation, the politics of social uplift, and the impacts of the liberal social science.

Using a large corpus of previously



Counselors at Camp Kawaga, Minocqua, Wisconsin, 1950.

unexplored primary artifacts, David's research offers an original history of immigration and aboriginality, national identity and cultural diversity, and humanism and primitivism, intertwined.

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Association for Canadian Jewish Studies ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT May 30-May 31, 2012

by Michael Kent, University of Ottawa

The 35th annual Association for Canadian Jewish Studies Conference took place in Kichener/Waterloo, on the Wilfrid Laurier University campus. We thank the co-ordinators of the conference, Rebecca Margolis and Randal Schnoor, for this well organized event.

HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS AND THE HOLOCAUST CULTURE

Max Beer, presenter of "Postwar: Holocaust Survivors and the Montreal Jewish Community," spoke on the issue of why survivors were unable to share their experiences outside of the survivor community after World War II. Max is associated with the CURA Project, Montreal Life Stories, Concordia Centre for Oral History and Digital Storytelling, and the common theme in the stories he hears is that the hostility of many native Canadian Jews towards the new arrivals made them reluctant to speak about their experiences.

Garry Smolyansky, of York University, discussed the current situation in Toronto of Russian-speaking Holocaust survivors' exclusion from many Holocaust commemoration and remembrance projects. His presentation, "We Are Also Survivors, Please Listen to our Stories: Adding the Voices of Russian-speaking Jewish Holocaust Survivors to the Shoah Memorialization Culture in the Greater Toronto Area," addressed his project of recording and documenting their stories.

CANADIAN JEWS DURING AND AFTER WORLD WAR TWO

Peter J. Usher, an independent researcher, spoke on "Jewish Enlistment and Service in the Royal Canadian Air Force in World War II." He investigated the role of Jews in the during WWII: disproportionate number served as navigators, and he wondered why this was so. It seems that many Jewish enlistees had a particular mental skill helpful in navigation; in non-Jews such a skill would elevate the individual to pilot but due to the British mindset that linked race to possible leadership, Jewish enlistees rarely advanced to pilot status.

Offering a very different perspective on post-war experience, Ira Robinson spoke about Rabbi Pinchas Hirschprung's memoirs. His presentation, "A Portrait of the Rabbi as a Young Man: Rabbi Pinchas Hirschprung's Memoir of His Escape from Europe to Canada," argued that the memoir, aside from being considered as an early Holocaust memoir, is one of the few autobiographies written by an Orthodox Jew and provides a snapshot of the concerns of the Montreal Jewish community at the time

Jack Lipinsky, "Conflict on Every Level: Saul Hayes, the United Jewish Welfare Fund of Toronto, and the Orphans Project," discussed the orphans project in the context of the Montreal-Toronto rivalry and how the project turned into a power play between Jewish leadership in both cities. He concluded that education and



A focused audience.

generation were not necessarily guiding factors in leadership; rather, money dictated who was in control.

Returning to the subject of refugees, **Kata Bohus** discussed the problems of integrating Hungarian Jews who had fled the Hungarian revolution into the Canadian Jewish community.

Her presentation, "Standing Together or Staying Apart? Contradictions of Integration Among 1956-er Hungarian Jewish Refugees in Toronto," pointed out that there were issues with the established Jewish community, which showed little enthusiasm or support due to linguistic, cultural and religious differences, and there were issues with the arriving Hungarian Jews, who were reluctant to integrate due to concerns over anti-Semitism and pride in their Hungarian heritage and who also showed little interest in mixing with individuals outside their community.

CONFLICTED SELVES:

PORTRAITS FROM THE 1930s

In this session, **Richard Menkis** and **Harold Troper** presented the stories of several individuals who wished to participate in the 1936 Olympics in Germany as part of Team Canada. **Frank Bialystok**, as the respondent, highlighted the relevant issues of identity in the context of the 1930s in the two presentations.

Richard Menkis compared Sammy Luftspring and Toots Meretsky, two Jewish athletes: Luftspring, who decided not to



Randal Schnoor (left) and Harold Troper.

participate but who had doubt over his decision, and Meretsky, who had no doubt about his desire to participate. **Richard** concluded that the communal pressure on Jewish athletes not to participate in the 1936 Olympic Games was an example of communal desire versus individual self-fulfilment.

Harold Troper compared Fred Herschorn and Sid Halter, who were involved in sports administration. Herschorn spoke out against Canadian participation in the 1936 Olympics but had his concerns swept aside, whereas Halter chose not to speak out against participation as he felt that as a Jew his opinion on the issues would be disregarded. Harold concluded that both these individuals were faced with the same problem: an inability to

balance both a Jewish and Canadian identity in sports.

EVENING PROGRAM: HONOURING HAROLD TROPER

Prior to the award ceremony, Paula Draper spoke to Hesh's accomplishments and his "menchlikeit," to the accompaniment of much hand-clapping. Randal Schnoor then presented the Louis Rosenberg Distinguished Service Award to Harold (Hesh) Troper.

In accepting the award, **Hesh** expressed his pleasure on being named

this year's recipient, noting that the award represents the collective agreement of his peers. He emphasized to those present the importance of studying the Canadian Jewish community as separate from the Jewish community in the U.S.

Keynote speaker **James Walker** spoke on "The
Jewish Contribution to
Human Rights." He
addressed the long history of

Jewish involvement in human rights and highlighted the importance for the Jewish community in attaining human rights for all, noting that through human rights there will also be Jewish rights. His discussion noted how this has been played out in practice at different points in Canadian history.

The final portion of the evening program was the launch of the book *Nazi Germany, Canadian Responses* (McGill-Queen's University Press), edited by **Ruth Klein**.

She thanked everyone involved in the publication of the book and explained that her book was an attempt to cover the range of responses in Canadian society to what was happening in Europe during the Holocaust.

CANADIAN SYNAGOGUES

The first session of the second day opened with **Barry Stiefel**, who presented "Building a House of Gathering on Our Own: Canadian Jews, Synagogues, and the Building Trades." **Barry** compared the situation in Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States as part of a discussion of the limited Jewish involvement in actually building synagogues.

Sara Tauben's paper addressed "Interpreting Architectural Traces of the Past: Historic Synagogues of Montreal and Europe." She discussed the difference between large and small synagogue structures as representative of the Jewish communal tensions between modernists and traditionalists and noted how Montreal followed this model of communal tension that had been evident in Europe.

Janice Rosen presented Barbara Weiser's paper "Who is Doing the Chuppah?" Barbara's paper highlighted the importance of the modern chuppah as a form of artistic freedom that could be used to incorporate any and all aspects of Judaism.

HOLOCAUST MEMORY AND REPRESENTATION

Presenter **Faith Jones** examined the film "The Quarrel." As the film is set in Montreal, **Faith** queried whether the film could be: a) considered

Chuppah for the dinosaur-themed wedding of Sarah Chark and Gaelan Coffin, December 18, 2011.



Please see page 7

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The Concordia Institute for Canadian Jewish Studies presents

The Montreal Canadian Jewish Studies (CJS) Forum

The Institute for Canadian Jewish Studies cordially invites you to attend a meeting of the Montreal Canadian Jewish Studies Forum. The mission of this group is to foster friendly and open dialogue among people interested in Canadian Jewish studies, to encourage the advancement of knowledge in this field through reading, debate and discussion, and to promote publication in academic, non-academic and artistic venues.

Meetings will occur once a month at Concordia University. Each meeting will focus on a theme relevant to Canadian Jewish studies, though the structure of the meetings may vary (presentations or responding to reading, etc.). Topics might include questions such as: What can cultural studies, postcolonialism, "queer" theory and other modes of inquiry add to our understanding of the diversity of Canadian Jewish experiences? How can knowledge and technology combine to improve researching and teaching on Canadian Jewish topics in institutions and in community? The forum will also provide an opportunity to share working papers, creative works or projects that individuals are working on and help one another build curricula for courses and community initiatives.

For more information on the CJS Forum or the Institute for Canadian Jewish Studies, please contact the Institute at cjs.fas@concordia.ca. Please do so also if you are interested in the group but cannot attend meetings during the Friday morning time slot.

Chaire de l'Université Concordia en Études Juives Canadiennes présente:

Le Forum Montréal des Études Juives Canadiennes

L'Institut d'Études Juives Canadiennes vous invite cordialement à assister à une réunion du Forum Montréal des Etudes Juives Canadiennes. La mission de ce groupe est de favoriser le dialogue ouvert et amical entre les personnes intéressées par des études juives canadiennes, d'encourager l'avancement des connaissances dans ce domaine grâce à la lecture, au débat et à la discussion, et de promouvoir des publications dans des enceintes académiques, non-académiques et artistiques.

Les réunions auront lieu une fois par mois à l'Université Concordia. Chaque réunion sera axée sur un thème relevant des études juives canadiennes, cependant les modalités des rencontres peuvent varier d'un rencontre à l'autre (présentations, commentaires de lectures, etc.). Les sujets sont susceptibles d'inclure des questions telles que : Qu'est ce que les études culturelles, le post colonialisme, la théorie « queer » et autres angles d'investigations ajoutent à notre compréhension de la diversité des expériences juives canadiennes? Comment les connaissances et la technologie se conjuguent pour améliorer la recherche et l'enseignement des thèmes juifs canadiens aussi bien dans les institutions universitaires que communautaires ?

Le Forum sera également l'occasion de partager des « Working Papers », des créations ou des projets sur lesquels les personnes travaillent et d'offrir ainsi l'opportunité de s'entraider afin de concevoir des programmes d'études pour des cours ou des initiatives communautaires.

Pour plus d'informations sur le Forum, vous pouvez communiquer par courriel avec l'Institut : <u>cjs.fas@concordia.ca</u>. Écrivez-nous aussi si vous êtes intéressés par le groupe, mais dans l'impossibilité d'assister aux réunions les vendredi matin aux heures proposées.

Continued from page 5

Establishment of Or Ha'emet Sephardic School."



Randal Shnoor welcomes participants to the evening program of the 2012 ACJS conference.

Canadian, and b) considered a Canadian response to the Holocaust. She concluded that overall the film's setting was generic and only happened to be in Montreal; that is, the setting was in Montreal but the film did not address the important Montreal issues of the time. In her opinion, for this reason, the film could also not be considered Canadian.

Jason Chalmers, in his presentation "Who Painted the Donkey? The Media Response to Yann Martel's Beatrice and Virgil," read and compared a variety of negative reviews on the novel to see if these were negative as a result of Martel, who is not Jewish, writing on a very Jewish topic: the Holocaust.

Jason concluded that the negative reviews had little to do with Martel's choice of topic and much to do with his representation of the material and high reader expectation.

CANADIAN JEWISH IDENTITIES

Kelly Amanda Train presented "Am I That Jew? North African Jewish Experiences in the Toronto Jewish Day School System and the

She addressed the issues faced by Sephardic Jews in being a minority within a minority. When the Sephardim first arrived in Toronto. their customs and values were of no consequence to the mainstream Jewish religious schools, a situawhich tion propelled the Sephardim to

establish the Or Ha'emet Sephardic School.

Stephanie Tara Schwartz spoke on "Postcolonial Themes in Canadian Sephardic Culture."

Noting that the Sephardim from North Africa were part of a larger colonized community, **Stephanie**



Fine dining at Kitchener/Waterloo's vegan restaurant (left to right): Gilda and Bernie Katz, Sylvia Lustgarten, Jack Lipinsky and Susan Landau-Chark.

queried how a postcolonial mindset would affect Sephardi activism in Montreal.

Stephanie concluded that this mindset (despite the fact that the individuals were no longer living in that type of milieu) did influence the perceptions and behaviours of these activists. □

ON THE BOOK SHELF

The orange on the seder plate: A mystery in six symbols. In this, SONIA ZYLBERBERG's first novel, she has combined two of her passions, her doctoral and ongoing research into new Jewish rituals and her love of mystery novels, into a fascinating tale of a Passover murder.



Many take for granted the appearance today of an orange on their seder plate. This is one of the transformations of traditional Passover seders Sonia documented in her doctoral thesis; she also wrote an article on the presence of the orange in *Nashim* (#5, 2002: *Gender, Food, and Survival*, pp. 148–171).

The orange underwent its own transformation in her imagination and emerged as a novel. Sonia notes that writing the novel was a very different kind of experience – although at least as much work as the thesis, it was much more fun! She envisions a series of Jewishthemed mysteries and is already "plotting" the next one: *Too Many Latkes...*

You can contact Sonia at soniaz.orange@gmail.com, or check out her website, www.soniaz.weebly.com.

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ACJS Conference: Call for Papers



THE ASSOCIATION FOR CANADIAN JEWISH STUDIES (ACJS) will be holding its 37th Annual Conference June 2-4, 2013, at the University of Victoria as part of the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences.

The conference provides a platform for original scholarly research on Canadian Jewish history, life and culture.

Individuals are invited to send proposals for learned paper presentations twenty minutes in length. Potential presenters are asked to submit a paper proposal by December 15, 2012. The paper proposal should comprise a 400-word abstract formulated to clearly and concisely state the main argument of the scholarly paper and indicate how it will contribute to existing scholarship in the field of Canadian Jewish studies. It should also include a bibliography of relevant sources. The abstract should be sent as a .doc or .rtf attachment, double-spaced in Times New Roman font, with the paper title clearly indicated at the top. The name, affiliation, address, telephone number and email of the potential presenter and the title of the proposed paper should be located in the body of the email only and not in the abstract. All proposals will receive anonymous peer review, after which point communication with presenters will occur by February 1, 2013.

All presenters must be paid 2013 members of ACJS at the time that proposals are submitted. Proposals from individuals who are not ACJS 2013 members will not be reviewed. Membership information for ACJS can be found on our website: www.acjs-aejc.ca/membership.html.

Partial financial support to defray travel and accommodations costs is available for presenters who have been ACJS members for at least one full calendar year prior to January 2013 (i.e.

presenters must be in good standing for both 2012 and 2013 to be eligible for support). University students are exempt from this requirement and are also eligible for additional top-up support. In all cases, because ACJS support funds are limited, presenters (including students) are expected to apply first to their host institutions for whatever funds may be available to them locally. Applications for financial support, which will be sent to eligible presenters along with the notice of acceptance of their paper proposal, will be due the first week of March, with results to be communicated by the end of March.

The best student paper of the conference will be granted the Marcia Koven Award, which is accompanied by a cash prize. The award, based on the oral presentation of the paper, will be granted based on the scholarly quality of the paper and its contribution to the field of Canadian Jewish studies.

As the ACJS annual conference is part of the larger national conference body called the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, ACJS conference participants whose paper proposals have been accepted must register in advance for the Congress by paying the required fees for both the general Congress registration and the ACJS conference registration. Early-bird registration rates are available before April 1, 2013. Participants will receive details on registration from the Program Chair and are also invited to consult the Congress website for details: www.congress2013.ca. Please note that presentations from individuals who have not pre-registered for the Congress and ACJS Conference will not be included in the Conference Program. Please email proposals to Professor Rebecca Margolis, Program Chair, at rmargoli@uottawa.ca.



VISITING RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS (non-stipendiary)

The Institute for Canadian Jewish Studies at Concordia University invites applications from scholars in Canada or abroad for visiting fellowship appointments. The Institute will consider requests for research terms of any length.

PURPOSE The purpose of the fellowship is to provide research space and an environment conducive to writing and reflection for scholars working on research projects in the area of Canadian Jewish studies.

TOPICS The Institute welcomes applications from all disciplinary backgrounds for projects that meet its mandate of promoting Canadian Jewish studies in relation to any and all aspects of society and culture, both contemporary and historical.

VALUE Office space in the building that also houses the Canadian Jewish Congress Charities Committee National Archives; access to the Institute's Avriel Butovsky Research Library; opportunities for research networking and exchange; and participation in the Institute's scholarly activities.

This is a non-stipendiary appointment with no cash value.

ELIGIBILITY Canadian and international scholars; doctoral students doing dissertation research.

CONDITIONS Successful applicants will:

- conduct their work in the Institute's quarters
- participate actively in the programs and activities of the Institute
- give at least one public seminar or lecture on the theme of their research
- acknowledge the Institute in all publications arising from the fellowship and notify the Institute of any such books or articles for inclusion in our database.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES Applications should include one copy of each of the following: (a) a detailed statement of the research proposal (maximum 5 pages); (b) an up-to-date curriculum vitae; and c) a letter of support from the thesis director (for doctoral students only). Applications may be sent by email to cjs.fas@concordia.ca or by mail to the following address:

Ira Robinson, Interim Director, Institute for Canadian Jewish Studies, Concordia University, 1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. West, Montreal, Quebec H3G 1M8, Canada.

Selection is made based on the academic merit of the proposal and the scholarly profile of the candidate.

In Memoriam RUTH GOLDBLOOM

Ruth Goldbloom, z"l, 2003 recipient of the Louis Rosenberg Canadian Jewish Studies Distinguished Service Award, died August 29 at age 88 after a short battle with cancer.

She received many accolades over the years in recognition of her tireless work as a volunteer and as a fundraiser. She was a member of the Order of Canada and the Order of Nova Scotia; she was the Chair of the Board of Mount Saint Vincent University, University Regent of Mount Allison University, and Chancellor Emeritus of DalTech University.

The ACJS Louis Rosenberg Award was presented to Ruth to honour her efforts in restoring and developing Halifax's Pier 21.

Pier 21 was the entryway into Canada for over a

million and a half immigrants between 1923 and 1971 as well as for Canadian soldiers returning from Europe after two



world wars. With the shift in transportation of newcomers to Canada (by plane instead of ship), Pier 21 was closed in March 1971 and sat as a little-used warehouse space, neglected and in disrepair, until 1990, when Ruth Goldbloom, with J.P. LeBlanc, co-founded the Pier 21 Society to raise funds to refurbish the site.

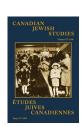
In 2011, Pier 21 was designated Canada's National Museum of Immigration: an incredible legacy that will forever recall the vision, dedication and determination that defined Ruth Goldbloom. □

Canadian Jewish Studies/Études Juives Canadiennes Vol. 20 (2012)

Word is out and papers are rolling in! New co-editors David Koffman and Stephanie Schwartz are excited about the upcoming Volume 20 (2012) of *Canadian Jewish Studies*. The journal is an important part of the Association for Canadian Jewish Studies' work, and we are calling on you, our colleagues, to contribute your support.

CALL FOR PEER REVIEWERS The wide range of subjects within our fields demands a vast array of expertise: be one of the first to read new scholarship in the field! If you are interested in becoming a peer reviewer or have been a reviewer in the past and would like to help out in the future, please contact the editors at editor.cjs@gmail.com.

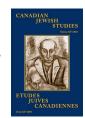
CALL FOR BOOK REVIEWERS Share your impressions of



new scholarship in Canadian Jewish studies with your peers! If you are interested in reviewing new books in Canadian Jewish studies, please contact our book review editor, Ira Robinson, at ira.robinson@sympatico.ca.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS Canadian Jewish Studies (ISSN: 1198-3493) is an annual, peer-reviewed journal devoted to publishing

scholarly work, in English or French, on all aspects of the Canadian Jewish experience, irrespective of disciplinary perspective. For our forthcoming issue, we invite contributions from any field and focused on any aspect of Canadian Jewish life. The editors are particularly interested in receiving fully drafted articles or abstracts for articles that make comparisons between any aspect of the



Canadian Jewish experience in comparison or interacting with Jewries from other nations, and/or comparisons and interactions between Canadian Jews and other Canadian religious or ethnic minorities. Please submit articles to *Canadian Jewish Studies* for consideration via Open Journal System: http://pi.library.yorku.ca/ojs/index.php/cjs/about/submissions#onlineSubmissions.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS Do you have a talent for web design or copy-editing? Can you translate between English and French? Getting involved in the journal is a great line on your CV and great academic and work experience. If you want to participate in the journal process, please get in touch with the editors at editor.cjs@gmail.com.

Let's make volume 20 (2012) a huge success!

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From Our Regions

The West

Jewish Museum and Archives of British Columbia

In Vancouver, the **Jewish Museum & Archives of British Columbia**continues to engage the community



with its innovative programming. Leonard Frank: Beautiful British Columbia is on display at the Simon Fraser University Teck Gallery until January 4, 2013. This exhibit was curated by Bill Jeffries and circulated by the Jewish Museum & Archives of B.C.

This exhibit, available for circulation to local galleries for their members and communities to enjoy, is a selection of Leonard Frank logging photographs (1900-1944).

For more information on our customized, well-priced loan opportunities, please contact in fo@jewishmuseum.ca, (604) 257-5199. We look forward to hearing from you soon!

For those living in or near Vancouver and for those planning to visit, the Jewish Museum & Archives of B.C. has an ever-invigorating *Philosophers' Café* series that brings in new moderators and topics to our "living room" every month.

The Philosophers' Café series originated at Simon Fraser University and has since become a provincial phenomenon spurring a robust number of hosts and cafés throughout the month, all sponsored by different organizations but with the same mission: to spark civic conversations and to reinforce face-to-face debates and discussions.

All Jewish Museum & Archives of B.C. Philosophers' Cafés take place at 6184 Ash Street (Vancouver) from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

A \$5 donation is suggested at the door. Hot drinks and sweets are served all night long.

Upcoming 2013 Philosophers' Cafés to look forward to at the Jewish Museum & Archives of B.C. are:

January 16, 2013 | Shavuot | Moderator: Rabbi Shmulik Yeshayahu | Co-Host: Vancouver Hillel

February 20, 2013 | Why do we worry about heritage? | Moderator: John Atkin | Co-Host: Vancouver Heritage Foundation

March 20, 2013 | Why have we forgotten Shaar Ha-aliya? | Moderator: Dr. Rhona Seidelman

April 17, 2013 | Topic: TBA | Moderator: Amanda Pollicino | Co-Host: Hebrew Free Loan Association of Vancouver.

Please check our website, www.jewishmuseum.ca, for updates, or feel free to contact us anytime at info@jewishmuseum.ca, (604) 257-5199.... Philosophers' Café: Where Ideas Percolate.

Jewish Archives and Historical Society of Edmonton and Northern Alberta

JAHSENA has a new home! Archivist Debbie Shoctor writes that "our beloved, yet decrepit JCC has been torn down and we have moved to temporary quarters at 10220-156 Street, Suite 200, Edmonton Alberta, T5P 2R1." Pictures of their new digs can be found on their Facebook page.

Please "Like" us if you belong to Facebook, and check for weekly updates on what we are doing or on stories of archival interest in the Jewish community.

Along with other members of ACJAM, the Association for Canadian Jewish Archives and Museums, JAHSENA will be doing a joint presentation at the upcoming



Association of Canadian Archives Conference in Winnipeg next June [the ACJS Spring Bulletin will have more information on this closer to the date]. Debbie notes that despite being preoccupied with their move, JAHSENA has undertaken a project with the City of Edmonton to recreate the H.B. Kline Jewelry store down in Fort Edmonton Park, Edmonton's historic heritage park. This was one of the earliest Jewish businesses in Edmonton (1904), and its re-creation will allow us to tell the story of Edmonton's Jewish pioneers to the tens of thousands of park visitors every summer. We hope this exhibit will be open in May 2013.

In the meantime, take a look at our photos in the latest Archives Society of Alberta online exhibit, "The Creative Process," at www.archivesalberta.org.

The East

Ste. Sophie and New Glasgow (Quebec)

From 1903 through 1905, the first Jewish immigrants from Eastern

Europe arrived in the villages of Ste. Sophie and New Glasgow, Quebec – located some thirty miles north of Montreal. Joining together with others and the local residents, these Jewish immigrants played an important role in the emergence of community and economic growth of the region. Having escaped the hardships of Eastern Europe, most of these Jewish immigrants were looking for a place to rebuild their lives and establish strong roots.

In the summer of 2013, the Jewish communities of Ste. Sophie and



The synagogue in Ste. Sophie served as both a school house and a shul for over one hundred years.

New Glasgow, Quebec, will be celebrating over one hundred years as one of the early farming communities in Canada.

In recognition of their rich past, longevity and important role as part of the Jewish community of Quebec, a two-day exhibition, with documents, photographs and memorabilia of their history, development and current status, will be on display.

There will also be a series of minipresentations given by scholars and an assortment of interested parties. These presentations (in English or French) will be open to the general public and will be ongoing in conjunction with the main exhibition.

The presentations will address Jewish farmers and the farming life in Canada, immigration to Canada, life for Jews in Europe in the late 1800s leading to immigration, and/or the Jewish Colonization Association. Suggestions will be considered.

The event will take place on June 30 and July 1, 2013, in Ste. Sophie. A transportation service will be organized from Montreal during this time. Space is limited. If you are interested in the progress of this event, log on to www.jewishfarmers.ca.

There is also a Facebook page – search "jewishfarmers" on Facebook, and please sign up for their monthly e-newsletter, "Tsuzamin/Together."

For further information, please contact Howard Gontovnick at howardg@alumni.concordia.ca.

Saint John Jewish Historical Museum: The changing roles of Jewish women and the threads of generations

In 2013, the Saint John Jewish Historical Museum will create exhibits of 18 decades of Jewish women's history in Saint John, New Brunswick. This exhibit will tell the stories of the contributions of Jewish women – immigration, religious and



domestic roles, Jewish organizations, family businesses, professions, and community and public service. A series of display panels will be researched, written and illustrated with archival photographs and documents to explain the varied roles filled by the Jewish

women in Saint John and to highlight the accomplishments of 18 of the most prominent women in the community. The exhibit will also uncover the stories of the women whose activities are



sometimes forgotten. Documents, photographs and artifacts from the Museum's archival collections will be placed in display cases for viewing.

A professionally produced video will be created to accompany the exhibit. This will include photographs, excerpts from audio interviews, home movies and other material linked together with a new narrative.

Many women in the Jewish community were skilled in the making of quilts, afghans, hats, clothing and decorative items for their homes and for the synagogue.

Examples of women's creative handwork, such as tablecloths, needlepoint, knitting, sewing, embroidery, painting and drawing, will be borrowed from community members and from the permanent collection for display.

We anticipate great interest to be shown in the work these women did within and outside the home. Watch our Facebook page for regular updates as the exhibit begins to take shape.

Additional information about the Museum and its activities can be provided by Katherine Biggs-Craft, Curator, or Gary Davis, President, at (506) 633-1833 or by email, sjjhm@nbnet.nb.ca. \square

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ASSOCIATION FOR CANADIAN JEWISH STUDIES ASSOCIATION DES ÉTUDES JUIVES CANADIENNES

c/o DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY 1455 DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD. WEST MONTREAL, QUEBEC H3G 1M8

ACJS/AEJC AFFILIATED SOCIETIES & INSTITUTIONS

(Asterisks denote institutional members)

Canadian Jewish Congress Charities Committee **National Archives**

Dr. Norma Joseph, CJCCC National Archives Chair Janice Rosen, CJCCC National Archives Director 1590 avenue Docteur Penfield

Montreal, QC H3G 1C5

Phone: 514-931-7531 ext. 2; Fax: 514-931-0548

Email: jrosen@cjccc.ca Website: www.ciccc.ca

Canadian Society for Jewish Studies *

Professor Ira Robinson, President c/o Institute for Canadian Jewish Studies Concordia University 1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. West

Montreal, QC H3G 1M8

Phone: 514-848-2424 ext. 2074; Fax: 514-848-8776

ira.robinson@sympatico.ca Email:

Concordia Institute for Canadian Jewish Studies *

Professor Ira Robinson, Interim Chair

Interim Director, Institute for Canadian Jewish Studies

Concordia University

FA-101, 1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. West

Montreal, QC H3G 1M8 Phone: 514-848-2424 ext. 2074; Fax: 514-848-8776

Email: cjs@fas.concordia.ca Website: http://cjs.concordia.ca

Israel and Golda Koschitzky Centre for Jewish Studies *

Professor Sara R. Horowitz, Director 763 York Research Tower

York University 4700 Keele Street Toronto, ON M3J 1P3

Phone: 416-736-5823; Fax: 416-736-5344

Email: srh(@)yorku.ca

Website: www.vorku.ca/cjs/contact.html

The Jewish Museum & Archives of British Columbia/ Jewish Historical Society of British Columbia

Jennifer Yuhasz, Archivist

6184 Ash Street

Vancouver, BC V5Z 3G9

Phone: 604-257-5199 (Skype-friendly); Fax: 604-257-5198

Email: info@jewishmuseum.ca Website: www.iewishmuseum.ca

Jewish Archives and Historical Society of Edmonton & Northern Alberta

Jini Vogel, President Debby Shoctor, Archivist 10220-156 St., Suite 200 Edmonton, AB T5P 2R1

Phone: 780-489-2809; Fax: 780-481-1854

Fmail: jahsena@shaw.ca Website: www.jahsena.ca

Jewish Historical Society of Southern Alberta

Betty Sherwood, President

Agi Romer Segal, Librarian and Archivist

1607 - 90th Avenue S.W. Calgary, AB T2V 4V7

Phone: 403-444-3171; Fax: 403-253-7915

Email: jhssa@shaw.ca Website: www.jhssa.org

Ontario Jewish Archives

Brooky Robins, Chair Dara Solomon, Director

UJA Federation of Greater Toronto

4600 Bathurst Street Toronto, ON M2R 3V2

Phone: 416-635-2883 ext. 5170; Fax: 416-849-1006

Fmail: dsolomon@ujafed.org

Website: www.ontariojewisharchives.org

Ottawa Jewish Archives

Emily Leonoff, Archivist 21 Nadolny Sachs Private Ottawa, ON K2A1R9

Phone: 613-798-4696 ext. 260; Fax: 613-798-4695

Email: archives@jewishottawa.com

Website: http://jewishottawa.com/page.aspx?id=193507

Saint John Jewish Historical Museum

Gary Davis, President

Katherine Biggs-Kraft, Curator 91 Leinster Street, Saint John, NB E2L 1J2 Phone: 506-633-1833; Fax: 506-642-9926

Email: sjjhm@nbnet.nb.ca

Website: http://personal.nbnet.nb.ca/sjjhm/

http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Saint-John-Jewish-Facebook:

Historical-Museum/118753971549220

University of Toronto Centre for Jewish Studies *

Professor Hindy Najman, Director

University of Toronto

Sidney Smith Hall, Room 5016 100 St. George Street

Toronto, ON M5S 3G3 Phone: 416-978-1624

Email: cjs.director@utoronto.ca Website: http://cjs.utoronto.ca

Vered Jewish Canadian Studies Program *

Professor Seymour Mayne, Program Coordinator

University of Ottawa

70 Laurier Ave East, Room 354

Ottawa, ON K1N 6N5

Phone: 613-562-5800 ext. 1148; Fax: 613-562-5990

Email: rmargoli@uOttawa.ca Website: www.vered.uOttawa.ca