
impact

Hornstein Program in
Jewish Communal Service
Brandeis University
Waltham, MA 02454-9110

Alumni Bulletin
ADAR 5764
Winter/Spring 2004

JOE REIMER REPORTS ON THE NAA AND AWARD-WINNING ALUMNI



Each year informal Jewish educators throughout North America gather for a conference sponsored by the NAA — the North American Alliance for Jewish Youth. The conference features numerous different learning opportunities for informal educators working in many settings including synagogues, camps, youth movements and the Israel experience.

At this year's conference in Orlando, I was invited to participate on several levels that also brought me into contact with the many Hornstein alumni who work in this field. But my most memorable moment came on the last evening when I was asked to present the *Etz Chayim* award to two young professionals who were selected for having "made a unique contribution to his/her organization and/or the field of informal education." One of the awardees was Hornstein alumna, **RACHEL CLARK HAPPEL '02**.

Rachel won the award for her innovative work in creating a new type of synagogue program that integrates formal and informal educational methodologies in most interesting ways. I know Rachel as an outstanding former student in the Hornstein-Heller Program, as a current fellow in the IJE's Professional Leadership Seminar and as an active member of the *Yesod* network of youth professionals in the Boston Jewish community. Standing before 300 conference participants and presenting this award was one of those rare moments of confluence when many aspects of my professional life came together in a highly satisfying way.

Rachel is not the first Hornstein alumna to win the *Etz Chayim* award. Two years ago **JENNIFER ZWILLING '98** won the award — the first time it was ever given — for her pioneering work on developing a new approach to Jewish teen work at the JCCs of Greater Boston. Nor is she the only alumna involved in the *Yesod* network for youth professionals. She is joined by **WENDY ARONSON '02** and **WILL ZARRITT '02** who are also doing fine work in their respective synagogues. Together these four Hornstein alumni are helping to reshape the face of Jewish youth work in the Greater Boston area.

As the Hornstein professor responsible for teaching informal Jewish education, I am proud of their work and of how their work represents a level of professionalism that we sponsor in this program. Of course, there are many other alumni in other areas of Jewish professional life who equally well represent the professionalism that is the hallmark of this program. We are immensely proud of all of you and view your work as the surest testament to the continuing value of the Hornstein Program.

Joseph Reimer, Ed.D.
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MESSAGE FROM STEVE JACOBSON



In this space, I have recently discussed ways in which we hope that the Hornstein Program will serve alumni in the not-too-distant future. Though progress has been slow, we hope, ultimately, to have access to ongoing oppor-

tunities to reconnect to the Program and to one another. I look forward to reporting progress in this area before too long. In the meantime, Hornstein alumni continue to serve the Program. And I am happy to report that we are doing so creatively and effectively. As you will read in this IMPACT, we have created an Alumni Ambassadors program to assist with recruitment. Our ambassadors have been guided by the talent of **TRINE LUSTIG '96** and will help Hornstein identify the best potential applicants. I am also happy to report that more than 30 of you have chosen to be Hornstein *Yedidim* with a contribution to the Alumni Association of \$100. And more than 100 of you have contributed at least \$54. This will help enable us to make good things happen for Hornstein, for ourselves, and for the community.

Steve Jacobson '93
President, Alumni Association
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FACULTY NEWS

CARL SHEINGOLD REPORTS: THE BETTY STARR COLLOQUIUM

The annual Betty Starr Colloquium brought Carl Sheingold and Hornstein's first-year class to New York City in early January. While visiting both national agencies and some interesting local institutions, students had the unique opportunity to engage with the key professionals who are leading today's Jewish community.

The national agencies visited included JCCA, UJC, JDC, JESNA. Students also visited UJA Federation of New York, as well as American Jewish World Service, Bikkurim, The Heschel School, JCC of Manhattan, and Heeb Magazine, all relatively young institutions. The latter experience provided especially valuable insight into innovative approaches to both programming and outlook.

During our three days, students had the opportunity to meet with some of the outstanding professionals of our time (individually or in panels). Vicki Agron, Lorraine Blass, Joy Brand, Nina Bruder, Allan Finkelstein, Ellen Goldstein, Robert Hyfler, Leora Isaacs, **LAURENCE KOTLER-BERKOWITZ '92**, Alisa Kurshan, Madeline Lee, Rabbi Dov Lerea, **LINDA LEVI '72**, Rabbi Joy Levitt, Jim Lodge, Naomi Sobel Marks, Aliza Mazor, Ron Meier, Ruth Messenger, Vicky Mevorach, Josh Neuman, Marcia Presky, Will Recant, Scott Richman, Steven Rod, Debbi Roshfeld, John Ruskay, Deborah Sklar, Rabbi Michael Strassfeld and Audrey Weiner superbly represented the wide variety of personalities, perspectives and experience in the field today.

Not to be forgotten were the Hornstein alumni who were able to meet with us. **JEREMY BANDLER '99**, **ANDREA FRAM PLOTKIN '01** and **AMY WAGNER '00** (who deserves a special "thanks" for organizing our UJC leg of the program), shared a bit of their professional life after Hornstein.

As always, we were stimulated and exhausted by the pace of the program and the variety of encounters. And as always, the Starr Colloquium provided a wonderful learning opportunity for our first-year students.

FISHER-BERNSTEIN INSTITUTE UPDATE:

The Fisher-Bernstein Institute for Leadership Development in Jewish Philanthropy has been very active in past months. This fall, the third successful training program for incoming federation presidents and executives took place

in Chicago. Carl Sheingold and Esther Perel, an organizational consultant and trainer, facilitated the workshop with Debbie Roshfel. Using innovative training techniques, this program was designed to enhance the working relationship of the lay/professional team by engaging each partner in both a conceptual and practical intensive experience. Concurrently, Carl Sheingold has been involved in a CJP project offering training to rabbi/lay leadership teams from Boston area synagogues.

The Institute is also involved on the issue of recruitment and retention of professionals in the Jewish community. Work with the Professional Excellence Project in St. Louis, as well as engaging in a research collaboration with the Cohen Center for Modern Jewish Studies is representative of this endeavor. This study includes interviews with key people from the Atlanta, Boston, Houston, Omaha, Nashville and St. Louis communities. The project will culminate with a survey of those professionals working in the full range of Jewish institutions in these six communities. Organized by Bob Aronson, this project is sponsored by a coalition of major donors who are also committed to funding new initiatives addressing this vital issue. sheingold@brandeis.edu

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As part of his work as director of the Nathan Perlmutter Institute for Jewish Advocacy, **LARRY STERNBERG '80** has been collaborating with the Jewish Council for Public Affairs (JCPA) to promote greater Israel advocacy skills among Jewish leadership in the United States. The JCPA has sponsored workshops in Chicago, San Francisco, Boston, Atlanta and Dallas and is now involved in creating community-specific interventions to improve and enrich Israel advocacy locally. Larry's work with the JCPA focused on developing a model for leadership education based in part on the experiences and experiments in advocacy classes in Hornstein. He wants to thank all his students for participating in this experiment! sternberg@brandeis.edu.

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PROF. JON A. LEVISOHN, assistant research professor of Jewish Education, presented a paper entitled "An Epistemological Defense of Education for Critical Patriotism," at the annual meeting of the Philosophy of Education Society in April. A related article, entitled "Young Patriots or Junior Historians?" is forthcoming in Philosophy of Education 2003. levison@brandeis.edu.



Please join us in welcoming our new Programs Manager, Risé Singer, to the Hornstein staff. Risé will focus on developing systems to enhance our technological, recruitment and planning capacities. Risé holds a Master's Degree in Intercultural Relations from Lesley University, and her professional background includes 15 years in higher education administration, much of it in the technology arena. According to Risé: "I feel so lucky to be working among such a dynamic group of students and educators. It is clear that Hornstein is a very special program and I look forward to increasing contact with alumni in the field."

**HORNSTEIN PROGRAM
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FRIDAY SEMINARS: A HORNSTEIN PROGRAM FIRST SEMESTER FEATURE

Each Autumn first-year students participate in a seminar on contemporary Jewish issues, planned by a student/faculty committee. This year's seminar included the following speakers:

- Brandeis Professor Stephen Whitfield: the history of "Jewish" Brandeis
- Hornstein faculty members Joseph Reimer and Carl Sheingold: Brandeis's IJE and the Hornstein Program's Fisher-Bernstein Institute for Leadership Development in Jewish Philanthropy
- Faculty members Sharon Feiman-Nemser and Len Saxe: the Mandel Center for the Study in Jewish Education and Cohen Center in Modern Jewish Studies, respectively
- Ruth Fein, Boston volunteer leader (and former president, Boston's Combined Jewish Philanthropies): Jewish Boston



Carl Sheingold & Ruth Fein

- Aliza Klein, Executive Director, Mayyim Hayyim: Living Waters Community Mikveh and Education Center
- Bradley Solmsen, Executive Director, Genesis Program at Brandeis.
- Jason Chudnofsky, Boston volunteer leader: lay/professional relations
- Mark Sokol, Executive Director, JCC's of Greater Boston
- Sherry Israel, associate professor emeritus, Hornstein Program: the National Jewish Population Study
- Barry Shrage, President, Combined Jewish Philanthropies
- Moshe Waldocks, Rabbi, Temple B'nai Zion, Brookline, MA



Bradley Solmsen

- Hayim Herring, Executive Director, STAR (Synagogues: Transformation and Renewal)
- Yossi Abramowitz: Executive Director, Jewish Family & Life
- Rabbis Jonah Pesner and Jeremy Morrison: Muslim-Jewish relations

INTRODUCING THE ENTERING CLASS

ELIZABETH ALOWITZ, a native of Latham, NY, is a 2000 graduate of SUNY at Geneseo where she majored in interpersonal and organizational communication. At Geneseo, she was active in Hillel, Jewish Student Union and volunteer organizations and after college spent a year in Israel working and volunteering on Project Otzma. This was followed by two years at the University of Virginia Hillel as a Jewish Campus Service Corps Fellow. Elizabeth is interning at Temple Emunah, Lexington, MA.

TAMARA AMBAR, a native of Nashville, TN, is in the second year of the three-year joint degree program with Brandeis's Department of Near Eastern and Judaic Studies, leading to the MA in Jewish Communal Service and Jewish Studies. Tamara is a 1998 graduate of Earlham College, where she received a BA in English literature. She came to Hornstein after studying both in Israel and at the "West Bank on the Great Lakes-Jerusalem Program." Tamara is doing her internship at the Jewish Community Centers of Greater Boston, where she is supervised by Hornstein alumna **JEN ZWILLING '98**.

ABBY ROSEN FINKEL, from Nashua, NH, holds a BS in Science from Schwartz College of Pharmacy, Long Island, and a Master of Pharmacy, in Clinical Pharmacy, from St. John's University, Jamaica, NY. After several years in the clinical science/pharmacy field, Abby made the decision to become involved in the Jewish community and comes to Hornstein as a part-time student. She has served in a variety of volunteer positions in her community and synagogue, and each of these activities has given her the opportunity to become familiar and involved with various individuals and resources available to the Greater Boston Jewish community.

CARLY FREIDEL, a native of Miami, FL, is a 2003 graduate of the University of Florida, where she earned a degree in Jewish Studies. As an undergraduate, she worked at the local Hillel Foundation. Carly is a Jewish Community Centers Association Scholarship recipient. In addition to her academic studies, Carly is interning this year at the Synagogue Council of Massachusetts, where she is super-

vised by Hornstein alumnus **ALAN TEPEROW '76**.

SHIRA GABER, from Brookline, MA, is in the 27-month dual degree program in conjunction with the Heller School for Social Policy and Management, leading to the MA in Jewish Communal Service and the MBA in human services. Shira is a 2003 graduate of Boston University with a degree in sociology. She has taught at Temple Sinai in Brookline, and at B.U. was coordinator of Speak-Easy, B.U.'s Peer Listening Hotline. Shira is doing her fieldwork this year at Jewish Family and Children's Services.

JENNIE GATES, from Omaha, NE, is enrolled in the three-year joint degree program in conjunction with Brandeis's department of Near Eastern and Judaic Studies. She is a 2003 graduate of the University of Nebraska with a BA in Fine Arts. Prior to matriculating at Brandeis, Jennie was a religious school teacher and youth group advisor, and was involved with the Florence Melton Adult Mini-School and the Organization for the Advancement of the Arts. Jennie is a recipient of the recently established Eugene Ribakoff Fellowship in Jewish Communal Service, entitling the recipient(s) to a full tuition scholarship, plus living stipend. (Students in the three-year NEJS/JCS program do not have a field placement in their first year.)

TRACIE GOLDMAN, from West Bloomfield, MI, is a 2003 graduate of Michigan State University, James Madison College, where she majored in social relations with a specialization in Jewish studies. She was a religious school teacher for three years in East Lansing, MI, and was the Jewish Resource Director for two summers at JCC Camp Kingswood, in Bridgton, ME. Tracie is interning this year at Gann

Academy-The New Jewish High School in Waltham, MA.

RONI HANDLER, from Philadelphia, PA is a 2001 graduate of the George Washington University where she majored in international affairs with a concentration in Mideast studies. She spent one semester of college at Ben Gurion University in Beersheva. Since graduation, Roni has spent a year studying at the Jewish Renewal Life Center in Philadelphia and worked for ALEPH: The Alliance for Jewish Renewal as well as the JCC. She has also traveled abroad extensively. Roni is interning this year at the Rashi



School, in Newton, MA, where she is supervised by Hornstein alumna **STEPHANIE ROTSKY '88**.

RACHEL HARRISON, from Belmont, MA, is enrolled in the three-year joint degree program in conjunction with Brandeis's department of Near Eastern and Judaic Studies. Rachel is a 2001 graduate of Barnard College, NY where she majored in English. Prior to Hornstein, she worked as a preschool teacher at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Boston.

ABBIE HIRSH, claiming both Milwaukee, WI, and Phoenix, AZ, as home, is in the 27-month dual MA/MBA degree program in conjunction with the Heller School for Social Policy and Management. Abbie is a 2001 graduate of the University of Maryland, where

she majored in sociology. For two years prior to coming to Hornstein, she was program director at the University of North Carolina Hillel in Chapel Hill. She is a recipient of the FEREP (Federation Executive Recruitment and Education Program) Scholarship, awarded by United Jewish Communities. Abbie is interning this year at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Boston, where she is supervised by Hornstein alumna **EMILY SAFFER '99**.

NADAV KADAR, of New York City, is enrolled in the three-year joint degree program in conjunction with Brandeis's department of Near Eastern and Judaic Studies. Nadav is a 2002 graduate of Clark University, where he majored in biology. In the year between college graduation and matriculation at Brandeis, Nadav worked as a technical/computer consultant for a medical practice and website companies in New York.

MIRIAM KLEYMAN, from Pittsburgh, PA, is a 1999 graduate of Skidmore College where she received a BS in theatre with a directing concentration. During her senior year at Skidmore, she was a production intern for the Late Show with David Letterman, followed by a stint in TV and film working for a talent agency, BBC American, as well as Miramax Films. While living in New York City, she became involved in the Jewish community and spent the past two years working for the JCC Maccabi Games at the JCC Association. As the Continental Associate for the JCC Maccabi Games, she was responsible for website development, management of an internship program, as well as creating new pilot programs for the Games. Miriam is a Jewish Community Centers Association Scholarship recipient, as well as a recipient of the recently established Eugene Ribakoff Fellowship in Jewish Communal

Service. Miriam is interning this year is at Boston's Jewish Community Housing for the Elderly.

JOSHUA LIPSHITZ, from Queens, NY, is in the 27-month dual MA/MBA degree program in conjunction with the Heller School for Social Policy and Management. He is a 2000 graduate of SUNY Stony Brook with a dual major in psychology and sociology, and a minor in Jewish Studies. While a student at SUNY, he was Hillel vice president, served as an intern at DOROT in Manhattan where he ran programs for New York's elderly population, and was a corporate recruiter for American Cancer Society's Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk. Following graduation, he was a Jewish Campus Service Corps Fellow and for two years served as the Program Director at SUNY Stony Brook Hillel. (The SUNY Hillel Rabbi is Hornstein alumnus **JOE TOPEK '79**.) Josh is interning this year at Jewish Big Brother Big Sister Association where he is supervised by Hornstein alumna **SARAH OVADIA '94**.

CINDY LIVINGSTON, a native of St. Louis, MO, is a 2001 Jewish Studies graduate of Emory University. At Emory, she was president of Hillel. Cindy spent the two years since graduation teaching at the Solomon Schechter Day School in Atlanta, as well as serving as a NFTY advisor. In addition to her academic studies, Cindy is interning this year at Temple Reyim, in Newton, MA.

CAROLINE MUSIN, a native of Clive, IA, is in the 27-month dual MA/MBA degree program in conjunction with the Heller School for Social Policy and Management. She is a 2000 graduate of the University of Iowa where she was an English major with a religion minor. She worked for three years as the Youth Director at Moriah Congregation in Deerfield, IL; she also has extensive religious school teaching experience. Caroline is passionate about women's health issues and has participated several times in the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation Race for the Cure. Caroline is interning this year at Mayyim Hayyim: Living Waters Community Mikveh and Education Center.

ALLISON POKRAS, a native of Philadelphia, PA, is a graduate of Old Dominion University with a degree in English. For the past 12 years, she has been an educator in both the non-profit and for-profit fields, teaching, directing and consulting to a variety of organizations throughout the continent. Most recently she has worked as an application-training consultant for a software company in Pennsylvania, and worked in that same capacity for Chase Manhattan Bank. Allison has volunteered in a number of Jewish agencies and synagogues in the Philadelphia area, as well as serving as a religious school teacher. She is doing her fieldwork at the Boston office of Jewish Vocational Services.

RACHEL SEGALOFF is a native of Trumbull, CT, and has lived in Boston for the past six years. She is in the 27-month dual MA/MBA degree program in conjunction with the Heller School for Social Policy and Management. She is a 2001 Brandeis graduate where she majored in Near Eastern and Judaic Studies. Prior to coming to Hornstein, Rachel worked as the education administrative assistant at Congregation Shir Tikva in Wayland, MA, and as a youth group advisor at Temple Beth Shalom, Needham, MA. In addition to her academic studies, Rachel is doing her internship this year at the Partnership for Excellence in Jewish Education (PEJE) in Boston.

JILL STARKWEATHER, a native of Worcester, MA, is in the second year of the three-year joint degree program in conjunction with Brandeis's Department of Near Eastern and Judaic Studies. Jill is a 2002 graduate of Brandeis University, where she majored in English/American Literature and Women's Studies. As an undergraduate, she was coordinator of the Women's Resource Center. Jill is currently teaching religious school and working as a youth advisor. Her internship this year is at KESHER, Cambridge, MA working with alumni on KESHER's professional staff: **DVORA GOODMAN '01** and **LAURA SHULMAN '03**.



HELLO FROM ROMANIA!

CARA UNOWSKY '03 was selected to be the *Ralph I. Goldman Fellow in International Jewish Communal Service*, a year-long work-study fellowship of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee. The fellows gain an insider's perspective on JDC's global programs through a range of unique assignments that respond to the changing needs of Jewish communities around the world. Cara has been emailing the Hornstein faculty and staff on her experiences and has summarized some of the events and emotions of the first several months of her assignment.

"Currently I am living in Bucharest, Romania, working with the local Jewish community as well as with many of the smaller Jewish communities throughout Romania. I am involved in two main projects: one is an assessment and planning process for the Jewish education system of Romania. Currently there are weekly Talmud Torah classes in eleven communities, seminars on Jewish topics that gather Jews together for communal learning, Jewish-themed summer camp programs, Jewish Education through the Mail informational packets, a Jewish educational website in Romanian (www.jen.ro), middle generation programs, Hebrew classes and community choirs. The second project

that I am working on is a Needs Assessment Process that will help to facilitate the creation of a Jewish Community Center in Bucharest. Here I am working with a local Romanian Jewish leader as well as a professional from the Association of Jewish Community Centers in Israel.

"I'm enjoying learning about the challenges, successes and realities of Eastern European Jewish life today, as well as participating in community celebrations and events. I've been able to travel all over Romania to see the mission of JDC in action and have also visited JDC programs in Bratislava, Slovakia and Israel. I attend weekly community Shabbat services and dinners, and eat at the local kosher canteen, which serves 700 people daily.

"Reflecting on the last few months, I am amazed at the questions of Jewish identity, commitment, responsibility and passion that are brought up on a regular basis in the field. Whether I am meeting with an elderly JDC 'assistee' who advises me to "Live to make memories . . . they will be your comfort," or meeting survivors of the Holocaust at the Chanukah concerts JDC helps to support, or meeting with Jewish communities in Romania who long to be known and in contact with others in the outside Jewish communities, I am having an unbelievable experience working for and learning about the work of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee."

To visit Cara's Educational World Jewry Website connecting American Jewish Day Schools to Jews around the world, go to http://www.jdc.org/who_awards_rig_chaval.html. To reach Cara in Romania email her at cara.unowsky@jdcny.org.

NEWS OF FACULTY AND FRIENDS:

Mazel tov to **BERNIE REISMAN** on receiving an award from Newton (MA) Mayor David B. Cohen, for "adding beauty to the Newton Free Library by planting and maintaining the annual bed of flowers on the Homer Street side of the building." As many

of you know, Bernie is not one to stand still. After retirement and with the blessing of Brandeis President Jehuda Reinharz, Bernie developed BALI (Brandeis Adult Learning Institute), geared primarily to retirees. BALI now offers over 25 different classes to over 250 people from the greater Boston community. A real success story! Email: bresreis@comcast.net



WELCOME TO THE COMMUNITY! RABBI JOE EIDUSON has been appointed head of the Rashi School in Newton, MA. A native of Buffalo, NY, he comes to Rashi after several years as head of the Agnon School in Cleveland. His wife Lisa serves as rabbi educator at Newton's Temple Beth Avodah, directing the religious school. Hornstein and Rashi maintain a wonderful collegial relationship where Hornstein alumna **STEPHANIE ROTSKY '88** serves as social justice coordinator at Rashi, and supervises current student intern **RONI HANDLER '05**.

AVRAHAM INFELD has been appointed as the 12th president of Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life, succeeding **RICHARD JOEL**, who has moved on to a leadership position as president of Yeshiva University in New York. As stated in the announcement from Neil Moss, Chair, Hillel Board of Directors, Infeld has served for the past 8 months as interim president, "winning the hearts of students, lay leaders and professionals."

ALUMNI AMBASSADOR PROGRAM IS LAUNCHED

Under the guidance of **TRINE ADLER LUSTIG '96**, the Hornstein Alumni Ambassadors Program has been launched. We want to give special thanks to those alums who have agreed to help with our recruitment efforts. Generally, the Ambassadors field questions about Hornstein, host programs on campus about professional careers in the field, and advocate for graduate study at Hornstein at regional events, including job and career fairs. This year most of our Hornstein Ambassadors are Hillel professionals. Their unique position gives them the opportunity to positively influence the lives of students on college campuses

We want to give special thanks to the following alums who have been working with Trine in this first effort:

SHELBY RONKIN APPLE '95
MARCIA BLOOMBERG '91
AVI FRIEDMAN '03
AILENE GERHARDT '99
BRIAN HERSTIG '95
JAY LEWIS '95
HAL OSSMAN '01
DEBBIE FARBMAN RUBENSTEIN '88
STEPHANIE WENER '01

If you are interested in serving as a Hornstein Ambassador, please contact Trine at

trinelustig@comcast.net

ALUMNI NEWS

HONORS:

ALBERTO LIMONIC '82, regional director of the American Associates Ben-Gurion University, recently received Boston's Combined Jewish Philanthropies *Torah and Tzedek Award*. Alberto has worked to create an awareness of the growth occurring at Ben Gurion University in the New England region. Recently Alberto led the drive throughout New England to support the needy Jews in Argentina. **MYRA KRAFT '72**, chair of the CJP overseas committee was one of the presenters. She stated that the award recognizes exceptional actions, efforts, and contributions to communal life, and Alberto's work symbolizes that ethic. alimonic@aabgu.org.

ROZ GARBER '74, president, Garber Travel, Brookline, MA, was honored to be #5 in the "Top 100 Women-Led Businesses in Massachusetts." She is "honored" as well to continue the Hornstein tradition where her daughter **SHIRA** is a member of the first year class. Email: rgarber@garbertravel.com.

RACHEL CLARK HAPPEL '02 is the recipient of the *Etz Chayim Award* — the NAA's (North American Alliance for Jewish Youth) Award of Recognition. The presentation, made at the January 2004 conference in Florida, is awarded "to a young professional in the field from two-five years who has made



a unique contribution to his or her organization and/or the field of informal education." Rachel received the Master of Arts in Jewish Communal Service and the MBA (human services) from Brandeis's Heller School in Social Policy and Management. Since graduation she has been the youth educator at Temple Beth Elohim in Wellesley, MA. In addition, Rachel is currently a fellow in Brandeis's Institute for Informal Jewish Education's Seminar in Professional Leadership. The fellowship is for Jewish educators who show a track record of leadership in informal education and provide evidence of thoughtful, innovative professional practice. rhappel@bethelohim-wellesley.org

PROFESSIONAL UPDATES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

GERRY FISHER '77 serves as executive director of the UJA Federation in Hamilton, Ontario, a small community about 40 miles west of Toronto. Other than 2 years as executive director of the Jewish Federation of Greater Manchester (N.H.), Gerry has spent his entire professional life in Canada. Gerry and his wife Anna-Rae Fishman are "willing to wager that I am the only federation director in North America that not only lives on a working farm, but whose president is also a farmer . . . and not just any farmer. My president's husband has been named 'Ontario Farmer of the Year!'" Email: gfisheruja@on.aibn.com.

CONRAD KOLLER '77 is working at Jewish Federation of Greater Miami in the area of Jewish Renewal. He works closely with fellow alum **BRUCE YUDEWITZ '76**, director, community planning and allocations. Email: for Conrad: ckoller@gmjf.org; for Bruce: bsyude@aol.com.

LINDA MYERS '83 is development director, Edward and Rose Berman Jewish University Center of Pittsburgh (Hillel). This comes after several years at the Pittsburgh Federation, followed by a stint as development director for Jewish Residential Services in Pittsburgh. Linda has recently remarried and she and her husband, Joel Goldstein, have a wonderful blended family of his 2 sons (11 and 15 years) and Linda's 3 daughters (10, 13 and 15 years). Joel, formerly a JCC professional, is executive director of a conservative synagogue in Pittsburgh. Email: lmyers@hilleljuc.org.

After a two-year stint as the Director of the National Jewish Coalition for Literacy, **SUSAN NEIMAN FERENCY '86**, has recently opened her own business doing editing, proof-reading, and publishing. She can be reached at sueneimandesign@comcast.net or 781-925-5772.

MELANIE SCHNEIDER '87 continues to serve as director, Jewish Reconstructionist Federation of Metropolitan New York, and consultant/director of the New York affiliate of the Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice. She and her life-partner Marla Gayle are the happy parents of Sasha (age 9) and Eliana (age 4). Email: jfrny@aol.com.

After 10 years with Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life where she was chief creative officer and director of the centers of Jewish engagement and Hillel's Steinhardt Jewish Campus Service Corps, **RHODA WEISMAN '87** has moved on. She was appointed executive director, Professional Leaders Project, a new philanthropic professional initiative. The goal of PLP is to recruit and train "20 somethings" to choose Jewish pro-

fessions as their career path. Email: Rhoda@jewishleaders.com.

After ten years as director of University of Connecticut Hillel, **DEBBIE FARBMAN RUBENSTEIN '88** has been appointed development director at the Solomon Schechter Day School of West Hartford. The three Rubenstein children attend SSDS and with Debbie in the same building, car-pooling has been cut to a minimum! Email: debrubenstein@cox.net

RANDY BERGEL '89 has been appointed associate director, Early Childhood Institute, at Boston's Hebrew College. In this setting she is working to promote the professional growth and development of teachers and directors. This comes after 16 years in the early childhood department at the Striar JCC in Stoughton, MA, most recently as the pre-school director. Email: rbergel@hebrewcollege.edu

LINDA COHEN '89 has signed on as a consultant for Arbonne, a Swiss health and wellness company. In addition to direct sales, she gives classes and presentations. Email: lindacohen@aol.com.

ANNA GELLER ELFENBAUM '89 and her family have moved to Hartford, CT (from Boca Raton, FL). Anna is coordinator of educational services with the Commission on Jewish Education of the Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford. And in the small world category, Anna and **DEBBIE RUBENSTEIN** (see above) re-connected after several years through their Schechter sons while arranging a "play date." Email: aelfenbaum@jewishhartford.org.

JEFF SPRINGER '89, formerly director of operations at the UJA Federation of Greater Toronto, has been promoted to campaign director. Email: jspringer@ujafed.org.

AMI BLASZKOWSKY '91 is administrative assistant to the head of school and development professional at the Striar Hebrew Academy of Sharon (MA). Ami says that "like most underfunded Jewish institutions, we often ask our staff to fill multiple rolls, so, on occasion, I am also the school nurse, dentist, guidance counselor, technology coordinator, and kitchen and maintenance worker. . . ." Email: ablaszkowsky@prodigy.net

LESLIE GROSSMAN '92 has accepted the position of director, Camp Tel Noar, Hampstead, NH, one of the several Eli and Bessie Cohen Foundation camps. Prior to this move, Leslie served as assistant director of Genesis, an innovative summer Jewish studies program at Brandeis for high school students. Email: kugel@charter.net

NATE GELLER '93 has received his real estate license and is working with a firm in Bergen County while he continues his search for a new position in the Jewish community. Email: gellerl@aol.com.

DAHLIA GROSS '95 is program director, Congregation Sha'ar Zahav in San Francisco. Email: cszdahlia@yahoo.com.

DAVID CHIVO '96 has assumed the position of acting director of development at Boston's Hebrew College. Email: dchivo073@aol.com.

ELANA PARU '96 is director of development, Young Judaea, in New York. Email: eparu@youngjudaea.org.

JEFF RICHARD '96 has been appointed associate dean for development at the Graduate School of Journalism, Columbia University. Prior to this move, he was director of develop-

ment and alumni relations at NYU. Email: jhrichard571@aol.com

BATEL YEHEZKEL '96 continues as the Adat Noar Curriculum Coordinator at the Orange County (CA) BJE. She and her family (husband Shaul, and three daughters) visited Boston this summer, spending time with classmate **TRINE ADLER LUSTIG '96**. Email: batel_y@yahoo.com. Trine continues to be involved with Hornstein where she is coordinator of the Hornstein Foster Seminar, works with faculty and staff on recruitment, and serves as a consultant for the IJE, as well as for the South Area Solomon Schechter Day School (Stoughton, MA) on their capital campaign. Email: trinelustig@comcast.net.

BETH TOBACHNICK SHAPIRO '97 recently dropped a "where are you in the world note." She, husband Simcha, and two children Neshama Leah (2) and Eliyahu Avichai (10 months), made Aliyah this summer with a plane load of Olim arriving in Israel with Nefesh b'Nefesh. The Shapiros are living at 316/2 Kochav Yaakov, Kochav Yaakov, D.N. East Binyamin, Israel, a small yishuv about ten minutes north of Jerusalem. Beth is employed as a development consultant and grant writer for Laurie Heller and Associates, a private development firm in Jerusalem serving Israeli based non-profits. E-mail: simcha@pol.net.

AMY MITMAN '99 continues her work at Boston's Combined Jewish Philanthropies. She has served as director of CJP's Young Leadership Division, and recently was appointed director of CJP's Leadership Resource Division. In this capacity, Amy will educate, train and place CJP volunteers, as well as oversee the Missions Department. Email: amym@cjp.org

JONI PICO '00, husband Mickey and daughter Sasha are happily settled in Golden Valley, MN where Joni is working in the Jewish community in a program called Sha'arim, which serves Jewish children with special needs. She also does some substitute teaching at an area day school, as well as in Sasha's pre-school. Joni has started studying for her bat mitzvah (6/26/04) and she and family have not ruled out a return to the Last Frontier. Email: mickeypico@aol.com

CORRECTION:

It should be noted that **LISA TABAK '95** is currently campaign director of the San Francisco Metro region at the Jewish Community Federation of San Francisco, not director of the Young Leadership Division as listed in the last issue of IMPACT. Email: lisat@sfjcf.org.

MAZEL TOV ON ENGAGEMENTS AND MARRIAGES TO:

MICHAEL MAIL '83 on his marriage to Keren Banks. She brings her two children, Mia and Zack, ages 4 and 6, to this marriage, and to quote Michael, he has "a pop-up family making it look like I've been married for years!" Email: michaelmail@lineone.net.

Eugene Goldenberg and **OLGA YORISH '92** on their November marriage (in Jerusalem). Olga and Eugene will be settling in Providence, RI, and Olga has recently accepted a position at the Jewish Federation of Central Massachusetts as the FRD/Endowments director. Email: oyorish@yahoo.com.

SIMON KLARFELD '95, vice president, The Andrea and Charles Bronfman Philanthropies, Inc., NY, on his engagement to Dara Zabb, a rabbinical student in her last year of study at the Jewish Theological Seminary. Email: sklarfeld@aol.com.

VALERIE SANDLER THALER '98 on her June '03 marriage to Alex Thaler, an elementary school teacher in Milford, CT. Valerie is a 4th year Ph.D. student in American Jewish History at Yale. Email: valerie.thaler@yale.edu

GENA ROTSTEIN '99 on her July 2003 marriage to Michael Wayne Shapiro of Cape Town, South Africa. Gena has started her own consulting company, Dexterity, working primarily for the Distress Center and UJA. Michael will either be going to medical school or continuing his research in pediatric TB/microbiology at the University of Calgary. Email: genar@shaw.ca.

RACHEL GLAZER '00 on her engagement to Michael Gustat. Rachel, program manager at the New Center for Arts and Culture at the JCC of Greater Boston, and Michael, systems engineer at Analysis Group in Boston, plan a November 2004 wedding. Email: glaze1219@yahoo.com

RACHEL RAVIV '00, curriculum associate at the Jewish Education Center in Cleveland, on her December 31 engagement to Alan Hoffer, a neurosurgeon in his third year of a seven-year residency in Cleveland. They are planning a late fall or early winter 2004 wedding. Email: rraviv@jecc.org.

AMY JABLIN '01 on her engagement to Eric Forseter, manager of the federal division of the software company, NETIQ, in Washington, DC. Eric and Amy, assistant director, Israel and Overseas Planning and Allocations of the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington, plan a May '04 wedding. Email: amy.jablin@shalomdc.org.

STEPHANIE WENER '01, associate executive director, Hillel of Greater Toronto, on her engagement to fellow Torontonians Joe Krasman. Joe is completing his Ph.D. in Organizational Behavior and Human Resource Management at York University. Stephanie and Joe are planning an August wedding. Email: Stephanie@hilleltoronto.org

Mazel tov to **COBI WEISSBACH '04**, current second-year student, on his recent marriage to Shira Naider. Cobi (from Louisville, KY) and Shira (from Philadelphia) met at the Hillel Jewish University Center of Pittsburgh. Cobi is interning this year at Gann Academy — New Jewish High School, and Shira is youth educator at Temple Emunah, Lexington, MA. Email: cobiw@brandeis.edu.

MAZEL TOV ON BIRTHS TO:

Howard and **SARA KLEIN WAGNER '89** on the August birth of their third daughter, Yael Maya, sister to Talia and Elana. Sara has returned to work at the Louisville Jewish Community Federation where she is associate director. Email: skleinwag@aol.com.

Jeff and **ANDI CZARLINSKY CALLAM '90** on the October '03 birth of their second child, Clayton Aaron, welcomed home by 2½ year old sister Emily. More good news: Andi has been appointed group services director at the Louisville (TN) JCC. Email: acallam@jccoflouisville.org.

Gary and **VIVIENNE ANSTEY '91** on the December birth of their son Benji, weighing in at 3.720 kgs! You do the math! Benji joins sister Dalit at their home in Constantia, South Africa. Email: vivanst@iafrica.com.

Joel and **DEBBIE KARPEL LEON '94** on the October '03 birth of their daughter Gabrielle Rose, welcomed home by her brother Jacob, age 2. Email: dleon37@juno.com.

Jesse and **VALERIE MARSHAL MITRANI '97** on the November birth of their daughter Ellie Mazal. Email: valeriemitrani@caje-miami.org

DONATIONS:

Donations made by alumni and friends of the program are most appreciated and will be noted in IMPACT.

From Mark Starr, in memory of his mother, Betty Starr, former office administrator of the Hornstein Program.

DEEPEST SYMPATHIES ARE EXTENDED TO:

VIVIENNE SILVERSTEIN KALMAN '65 on the April death of her husband Albert as a result of a deteriorating neurological disease. In addition to Vivienne, Albert is survived by 3 children and 9 grandchildren. Vivienne continues to serve as secretary/clerk at the Adams Street Shul, Newton, MA, and as senior advocate in a gerontology program. Email: alviv@comcast.net

JOAN CARR '88 on the February death of her husband David from non-Hodgkins lymphoma. In addition to Joan, David is survived by their 3 sons, 3 daughters-in-law and 4 grandchildren. Joan had been on leave from the Union for Reform Judaism during David's illness, but is back at work in the Needham, MA office where she is regional educator. Email: jcarr@urj.org.

CONNIE SPEAR BIRNBAUM MEMORIAL LECTURE ESTABLISHED

Dr. Herbert Birnbaum and his three children have established a fund at the Synagogue Council of Massachusetts in memory of their devoted wife and mother, Connie, to enable her commitment to Jewish education and K'lal Yisrael to continue as a living legacy. The Connie Spear Birnbaum Memorial Lecture will be an annual event sponsored by the Synagogue Council, for alumni of the acclaimed Unity Mission to New York and members of the broader Jewish community, as a way of addressing issues related to K'lal Yisrael with a speaker of national or international prominence.

Connie was a 1981 Hornstein graduate who expressed her commitment to K'lal Yisrael through numerous professional and personal efforts. She worked closely with **ALAN TEPEROW '76** for seven years at the Synagogue Council as the Coordinator of Unity Programming. According to Dr. Birnbaum, "Connie's firm convictions stemmed from her understanding, as a daughter of a Holocaust survivor, that there is much more that unites rather than divides all Jews, and that, ultimately, we share the same precious legacy and a common destiny."

In her role as Coordinator of Unity Programming, Connie developed educational programs, facilitated dialogue and led an annual two-day mission to centers of Jewish learning and leadership in New York City. Her love of *K'lal Yisrael* was infectious and her skill as a professional impeccable. The inaugural Connie Spear Birnbaum Memorial Lecture took place January 28, 2004 at the Birnbaums' synagogue, Congregation Beth El-Atereth Israel, Newton, MA with Rabbi Dr. Norman Lamm, Chancellor of Yeshiva University as guest speaker.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION DUES DRIVE 2003-04 (DUES RECEIVED OCTOBER '03-FEBRUARY '03)

This year the Alumni Association initiated a new category of giving: Yedidim (\$100 – 'special friend'). This is in addition to the Chaverim (\$72.00 – 'good friend'), formerly referred to as Alumni Associates. Alumni giving in each of these categories will be noted in IMPACT.

YEDIDIM — SPECIAL FRIEND:

Jeremy Bandler '99	Steve Jacobson '93	Marden Paru '74
Mark Baranek '83	Rhonda Marks Karol '79	Jonathan Rubenstein '73
Marcia Bloomberg '91	Elliot Karp '80	Susan Olshansky Singer '75
Cindy Chazan '74	Jocelyn Berger Krifcher '88	Jason Soloway '01
Roz Garber '74	Diane Lasken Katz '94	Judith Singer Swartz '82
Hollis Kramer Gauss '01	Simon Klarfeld '94	Barry Swartz '82
Cindi Maggied Gellert '87	Rose Mossberg Malkin '91	Alan Teperow '76
Fran Ginsburg '77	Dan Mariaschin '73	Jen Weber '99
Ralph Gortlieb '72	Ellen Meisel '92	Rhoda Weisman '87
Elliot Halperin '95	Elana Paru '96	Bruce Yudewitz '74
Minna Horwitz Heilpern '76		

CHAVERIM — GOOD FRIEND:

Marthajoy Aft '75	Alberto Limonic '82
Jean Carr '88	Trine Adler Lustig '96
Amy Skopp Cooper '88	Janis Jacobson Peiser '84
Dori Denelle '79	Miriam Brunn Ruberg '76
Sue Ann Endelman '75	Teri Swartz Russell '79
Fiona Epstein '86	Sharon Brown Sherry '90
David Goldberg & Nicky Goldman '92	Howard Silver '72
Steve & Frieda Huberman '76	Leslie Keiter Tannenwald '76
Amy Jablin '01	Sara Klein Wagner '89
Elinor Finger Josephson '81	Stephen Wise '98
Carolyn Keller '75	Stephanie Wolfson '91
Judy & Marshall Kupchan '76	Deborah Yoburn '91

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