

THE IDA PEARLE AND JOSEPH CUBA ARCHIVES AND GENEALOGY CENTER
OF
THE WILLIAM BREMAN JEWISH HERITAGE MUSEUM
1441 SPRING STREET
ATLANTA, GA 30309
www.thebreman.org

REGISTER: THE TEMPLE
SISTERHOOD

Processed by Sandra Berman
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Mss. No. 42

The Temple Sisterhood was established on December 9, 1912, and is the oldest congregation-sponsored women's organization in Atlanta. The Sisterhood was initiated by Dr. David Marx, spiritual leader of The Temple, who felt that a women's group could help in the development of the synagogue as both a religious and educational gathering place for members of the congregation. Previously, the responsibility for many of these activities fell to the Atlanta Section of the National Council of Jewish Women, an organization founded by Temple members. Josephine Kaufman, wife of founding member David Kaufman, was the first Sisterhood president. Stella Bauer was president throughout the First World War. In Stella Bauer's 1919 speech titled What Has The Sisterhood Done For the Cause of Judaism, she reiterated the primary goals of the then eight-year-old organization: "Our chief aims have been to further the religious ideals for which we stand; to inspire our members with a love and reverence for our sacred faith, and to lead our children to respect and honor the beautiful forms and ceremonies of our holy religion." An advocate of the women's suffrage movement, she went on to say that "We should have representation on The Temple Board -- not figure-head type we have now that permits us to be present and talk, but gives us no power to vote. In this age of woman's suffrage, the Sisterhood should demand the right to have a real working voice in the deliberations of The Temple Board and be given the power to aid materially in the development and growth of the congregation. Women naturally know more about that phase of temple management which concerns the child and it is due us that we are given the right to express ourselves at least in his behalf."

In the ensuing decades, The Temple Sisterhood continued to be directly involved in insuring that both the spiritual and educational needs of the Temple family were being met at every level. It also responded to social service concerns in the general community, providing assistance to the blind, the mentally handicapped and to the city of Atlanta's Head Start program. Today, Sisterhood continues to be a productive and innovative organization, fulfilling all of the needs that Mrs. Henry Bauer so eloquently stated in 1919.

The Temple Sisterhood Records, 1902-1987, are primarily composed of minutes, scrapbooks, programs, invitations, reports, speeches and Garden Club records. The minutes and scrapbooks contain a wealth of information, including annual reports which detail many of Sisterhood's accomplishments. The social historian interested in the development of the women's organization and in the women's movement will find this collection of special interest.

The collection is arranged in alphabetical order by subject and chronologically within each folder. The smaller scrapbooks are boxed in alphabetical order, the larger books are contained in oversize boxes. Much of the oldest scrapbook was dismantled for conservation purposes. The book was photocopied so that the original order of the documents could be maintained.

Restrictions: Available to the serious scholar
Number of containers: 5
Number of oversize bound volumes (not boxed): 2
Oversized flat items: Removed to oversize collection
Photographs: Removed to visual arts collection

Shelf space occupied: 3.0 ft

SB.M42

Container

1

Subject file, C-I, 1939-1986

- Folder 1 Calendar, 1969-1970.
- Folder 2 Certificates, 1955-1986.
- Folder 3 Constitution and by-laws, 1949-1973.
- Folder 4 Correspondence, 1969-1973.
- Folder 5 Directories, 1955-1977.
- Folder 6 Donor dollars, 1959.
- Folder 7 Funds, undated.
- Folder 8 Garden Club-bank statements, 1953-1958
- Folder 9 Garden Club-budgets, 1955-1959.
- Folder 10: Garden Club-cancelled checks, 1953-1958
- Folder 11: Garden Club-financial record books,
1953-1959.
- Folder 12: Garden Club-financial statements,
1955-1958.
- Folder 13: Garden Club-handbook, 1953.
- Folder 14: Garden Club-miscellany, 1955-1957.
- Folder 15: Garden Club-passbooks, 1954-1958.
- Folder 16: Gift shop, undated.
- Folder 17: Guest log, 1939-1967.
- Folder 18: Interfaith service, 1969.
- Folder 19: Interfaith service, 1970.
- Folder 20: Interfaith service, 1971.

Container

2

Subject file, I-M, 1932-1985

- Folder 1 Interfaith service, 1972.
- Folder 2 Interfaith service, 1973.
- Folder 3 Invitations and programs, 1932-1968
- Folder 4 Invitations and programs, 1969-1985
- Folder 5 Invitations and programs, undated.

- Folder 6: The Jewish Braille Institute of America, 1975.
- Folder 7: Membership survey, 1973.
- Folder 8: Minutes, June 1951-May 1954.
- Folder 9: Minutes, May 1954-May 1957.
- Folder 10: Minutes, June 1957-May 1960.
- Folder 11: Minutes, May 1960-May 1963.
- Folder 12: Minutes, May 1963-June 1966.

Container

3 Subject File, M-S, 1919-1987

- Folder 1: Minutes, May 1966-May 1969.
- Folder 2: Minutes, June 1975-Dec. 1978.
- Folder 3: Minutes, Jan. 1979-Dec. 1982.
- Folder 4: Miscellaney, 1969 and undated.
- Folder 5: Mini-courses, undated.
- Folder 6: National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods-general files, 1949-1987.
- Folder 7: National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods- "25" Biennial Assembly, 1965.
- Folder 8: National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods- "28" Biennial Assembly, 1971.
- Folder 9: Newspaper clippings, 1954-1972.
- Folder 10: Notices of events and meetings, 1968-1974.
- Folder 11: Reports, 1919-11966.
- Folder 12: Rothschild, Jacob, 1956-1971.
- Folder 13: Scrapbook, 1919-1947.
(original material removed from oversize scrapbook, oversize Container 1)
- Folder 14: Scrapbook, 1919-1947
(photocopies of items removed from oversize scrapbook, oversize Container 1 -original order of scrapbook maintained)

Container

4

Subject File, S-T, 1902-1979.

Folder 1: Scrapbook, 1976-1977.

Folder 2: Scrapbook, 1978-1979.

Folder 3: Sisterhood Sabbath services, 1970-1974

Folder 4: Southeast Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, 1946-1974.

Folder 5: Speeches, poem, and play written by Sisterhood members, 1919-1977.

Folder 6: The Temple-bulletin, 1968.

Folder 7: The Temple-dedication service program, 1902.

Folder 8: The Temple-miscellaney, 1957-1959.

Folder 9: The Temple-Religious School, 1949.

Container

5

Scrapbooks, 1919-1968

Volume 1: 1919-1954

Volume 2: 1952-1968

Container

6

Scrapbooks, 1954-1961

Volume 1: 1954-1961

Container

7

Scrapbooks, 1961-1974

Volume 1: 1961-1964

Volume 2: 1964-1967

Volume 3: 1968-1974