

REFLECTIONS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE WILLIAM BREMAN JEWISH HERITAGE & HOLOCAUST MUSEUM

ZAP! POW! BAM! The Superhero: The Golden Age of Comic Books, 1938-1950, Returns to The Breman

ALMOST EVERYONE HAS A
"COMIC BOOK MEMORY!"

It's past your bedtime...lights out...with a flashlight under your blanket...you're reading your comics, immersed in an imaginary world.

Renew and revisit your comic book memories through The Breman's special exhibition, **ZAP! POW! BAM! The Superhero: The Golden Age of Comic Books, 1938-1950.**

Returning to Atlanta after seven years of traveling the U.S. to delight audiences at other venues, this exhibition was created by The Breman in 2004.

ZAP! POW! BAM! will be presented in the Marlene J. and William A. Schwartz Special Exhibitions Gallery until May 8, 2011.

The exhibition features comic book art, vintage comic books, 1940s Hollywood movie serials, video interviews with comic artists and writers, superhero memorabilia, interactive stations including a vintage Batmobile ride, a dress-up area with a telephone booth for quick costume changes, a drawing studio, and photo-ops. A lively, colorful, multi-media exhibition, **ZAP! POW! BAM!** will engage visitors of all ages and backgrounds

When the first of the superheroes was created, the real world in the late 1930s was a place where, as exhibition curator Jerry Robinson describes it, "... the American dream had become a nightmare. It was the Great Depression – a time of breadlines and soup kitchens, apples sold by war veterans on street corners intoning, 'Brother, can you spare a dime'?"

The 1929 stock market crash spawned the most disastrous economic decade in our country's history.

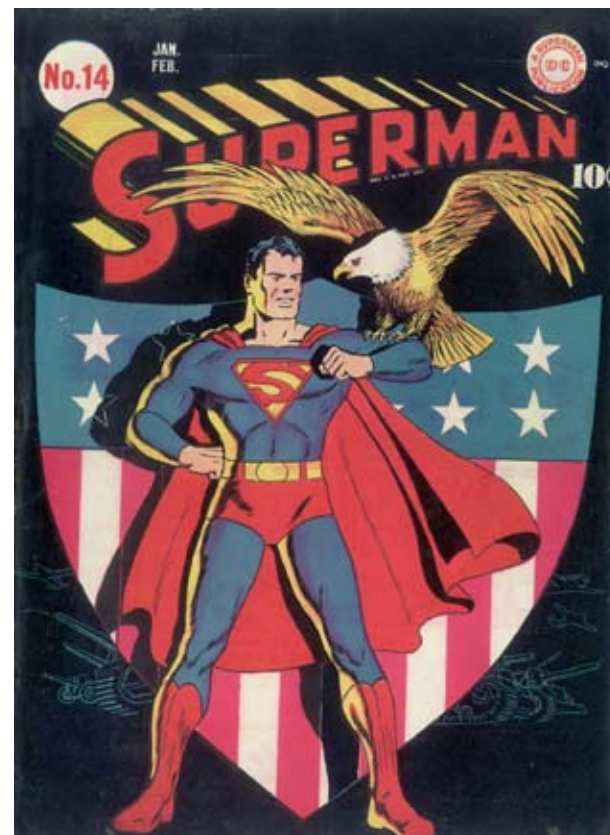
Jobs were mostly non-existent, and talented young men searched for any avenue in which to find work.

The 1933 Federal Emergency Relief Administration report on joblessness noted that in New York City especially, "Jewish young people comprise the big and uncertain problem. They are personally ambitious, they want to get somewhere and most of them have taken advantage of high schools and colleges. The thing that's the matter with 85% of these young people is the lack of jobs."

It is no wonder that so many of them were drawn to the newly emerging, New York-based comic book industry, where if you could write with flair and draw with imagination, employment could readily be had. During the long Depression that followed the crash, the American people craved not only humor to lift their mood, but also strong men — superheroes — to correct their world.

Although a 20th-century phenomenon, the American comic book had its roots in 19th-century inexpensive pulp paper magazines, Civil War dime novels, and beginning in 1895, newspaper comic strips that satirized and poked fun at politics, local and world events, and everyday life.

Initially comprised of reprints of newspaper strips, the early comic books soon used up previously published material, and publishers began to employ writers and artists to create new stories and characters to supply what became a voracious public appetite for the genre.



Superman #14. Cover art by Fred Ray. © 1942 DC Comics. Superman™ and © DC Comics. All rights Reserved. Used with Permission. Collection of Jerry Robinson.

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REFLECTIONS, THE BREMAN'S
NEWSLETTER, IS MADE POSSIBLE
THROUGH THE GENEROSITY OF
ELINOR R. BREMAN, IN LOVING MEMORY
OF WILLIAM BREMAN.



A MESSAGE FROM

The President of the Board

Dear Friends,

Legacy: A Gift to the Future

So the question is: what's a bequest, gift, or something transmitted by or received from an ancestor or

predecessor from the past?

By definition, the short answer is: a legacy. Yet another definition is how we will be remembered.

For more than a year, Jane Leavey, Howard Fagin, and I have been attending a series of seminars called "Creating a Jewish Legacy", conducted by the Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta. For someone like me, a lawyer who drafted more than 8,000 wills while in the military, I thought I knew a great deal about bequests and gifts of property. And although I do, I found that this Federation program sheds new light on giving in ways that include more than just family and special friends.

Consider gifts or bequests to charitable organizations, such as to your synagogue, Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta, or to The Breman Jewish Heritage and Holocaust Museum. I know

that many reading these words already have provided such gifts through a will, an insurance policy, proceeds from a 401(k), or other financial instrument.

We learned through "Creating a Jewish Legacy," however, that in reality most people do not make such gifts. It is not that they do not want to, it is just they have not thought about it or do not know about the opportunities.

Did you know that Atlanta ranks fourth in the United States behind Seattle, San Francisco, and Kansas City in terms of charitable giving, according to recent data from the Foundation Center, the National Center for Charitable Statistics, and from VolunteeringinAmerica.com? So it is not that Atlantans do not give. We do.

It is just that of all the people in the U.S. who have a will, only about 7% include a charitable bequest. And it was this surprising statistic that in part motivated the new "Creating a Jewish Legacy" program.

Now for some good news. Of the first 14 Jewish organizations taking part in Federation's Legacy Program, The Breman Museum currently ranks second in terms of having Board members and a few

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A MESSAGE FROM

The Executive Director

Dear Friends,

The Breman is reintroducing you and our entire

community to some of the most well-known Super Heroes of the Golden Age of comic books, including DC Comics' **Superman**, **Batman**, **Captain Marvel** and **Wonder Woman**, as well as Marvel Comics' **Captain America**!

ZAP! POW! BAM! *The Superhero: The Golden Age of Comic Books, 1938-1950* will rekindle memories of childhood for some, bring a new and unique perspective on the creators and characters of the Golden Age for others, and showcase still familiar and beloved superheroes for everyone's enjoyment. Comic books have made a huge impact on American popular culture and, especially during the Golden Age, were very reflective of many socio-economic, social justice and political issues of the day.

Through the 1930s and 1940s and into the early 1950s, led by **Superman** (1938) and followed by the likes of other National Periodical Comics (now DC Comics) creations including **Batman** (1939) and **Green Lantern** (1941) and **Wonder Woman** (1941); Fawcett Publications' **Captain Marvel** (1940); Quality Comics' **Uncle Sam** (1940); and **the Human Torch** (1939), **Sub-Mariner** (1939) and **Captain**

America (1941) from Timely Comics (now the Marvel Comics Group), the superheroes were the champions of the common man and the defenders of America's freedoms and ideals.

ZAP! POW! BAM!'s guest curator was Jerry Robinson who, when working with **Batman** creator Bob Kane, named **Robin**, Batman's young protégé, and co-created the **Joker**, Batman's nemesis and one of the first Super-Villians.

In curating the exhibition, Mr. Robinson offered his many years of experience in the comic book industry and his numerous connections to current comic book authors, artists and collectors. His vision was invaluable to the creation of an exclusive, behind-the-scenes look at the Golden Age of comic books.

Come and enjoy the exhibition. Gain a unique perspective on the role of the superhero in American life. Bring the whole family and relive YOUR comic book memories!

Discover us! Support us! Visit us!

Jane Leavey, Executive Director

THE BREMAN JEWISH HERITAGE & HOLOCAUST MUSEUM

THE ARBISER FAMILY THEATRE

THE BLONDER FAMILY HERITAGE GALLERY

IDA PEARLE & JOSEPH CUBA COMMUNITY
ARCHIVES & GENEALOGY CENTER

THE HOLOCAUST GALLERY

THE ELINOR ROSENBERG BREMAN
MUSEUM SHOP

MARLENE J. & WILLIAM A. SCHWARTZ
SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS GALLERY

THE LILLIAN & A.J. WEINBERG CENTER
FOR HOLOCAUST EDUCATION

• • •

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Thank You for Remembering Special People & Occasions With a Tribute Gift to The Breman

*To make a tribute gift, please use the enclosed envelope or contact Judy Schancupp at 678-222-3707.
Gifts may also be made securely through our website, www.thebreman.org.*

Tributes listed were received between September 15, 2010, and February 15, 2011. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of all information; we apologize for any errors.

MAZEL TOV!

Eve & David Adler, in honor of the engagement of Rachmiel Strazynski to Miriam Adler, from Jacquie & Ben Hirsch
Aaron Alembik, in honor of his 80th birthday, from Evelyn & Al Baron
Judy & Aaron Alembik, in honor of their 50th anniversary, from Evelyn & Al Baron
Albert Baron, in honor of his marriage, from The Breman's Volunteer Museum Educators
Lois Blonder, in honor of her birthday, from Jane & Bob Leavey, Elyse Mintz, Susan Stern
In support of The Breman, from Linda & Bruce Beeber, Rosi & Arnoldo Fiedotin, Betty Furst, Micheline Gerson, Dr. Edward Halperin, Billi Marcus, Natalie Robinson, David Sotto, David Whittington
In support of Holocaust education at The Breman, from Diane & Marc Hamburger, Janet Nawy-Camhi & Roger Nawy
In honor of The Breman's Volunteer Museum Educators, from Rosalind Taranto



Miriam (Mickie) Greenberg Eisenberg (later Krinsky) at her wedding to David Eisenberg. The photo was taken in the Greenberg home at 898 Washington Street. Left to right: Clara Lazar (Feldman), Marian Lewis (Sharon), Miriam (Mickie) Greenberg (Eisenberg), and Rose Greenberg (Rappaport).

In honor of Shirley Brickman, from Susan & Ken Kirshner
Nancy Broudy, in honor of her birthday, from Linda & Michael Weinroth
In honor of Patrick & Jennifer Campbell, from Kris & Dave Campbell
In honor of Judy Cohen, from Michelle, Eric, Benjamin, & Gregory Egan
Judy & Ron Cohen, in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter, Samantha, from Nancy & Zane Pollard, Linda & Mike Weinroth
Carol Cooper, in honor of her receipt of the 2010 Abe Goldstein Human Relations Award by the ADL, from Anta & Mendel Romm
Bob Evans, in honor of his birthday, from Jane & Bob Leavey
Florence Goldstein, in honor of her birthday, from Dolores & Harold Arnovitz
In honor of Freda Goodman, from Bonnie Aronin
In honor of Monica Katz, from Shirley Osterneck
Marsha & André Kessler, in honor of the birth of their grandson, Benjamin Heindman, from The Breman's Volunteer Museum Educators, Judy & Ronnie Cohen, Linda & Mike Weinroth
Sheri Labovitz, in honor of her birthday, from Amy & Robert Arogeti
Noah Levine, in honor of his 60th birthday, from Jane & Bob Leavey
Suzie Lowenstein, in honor of her birthday, from Elinor Breman, Dr. Herbert & Cantor Jill Spasser
Mr. & Mrs. Brendan Murphy, in honor of the birth of their son, Oliver Murphy, from the Volunteer Museum Educators, Board & Staff of The Breman
Melanie Nelkin, in honor of her birthday, from David Nelkin

Judy & Joel Schancupp, in honor of their daughter's wedding, from Joan Schwartz, Linda & Michael Weinroth
Marilyn & Josh Shubin, in honor of the engagement of their granddaughter, Molly Shubin, from Doris & Marty Goldstein
Josh Shubin, in honor of his 85th birthday, from Marcia & Michael Schwarz
Estelle Silverman, in honor of her birthday, from Sheri & Steve Labovitz
Simeon Smith & Mandy Roth, in honor of their marriage, from The Breman's Volunteer Museum Educators
Bella Solnik, in honor of her 85th birthday, from Ann & Ted Kaplan, Ruth Levison & Miriam Kapelus
Dr. Mark & Marsha Strazynski, in honor of the engagement of Rachmiel Strazynski to Miriam Adler, from Jacquie & Ben Hirsch
Dr. Cedric Suzman, in honor of the successful program at Morehouse College, from Jane & Bob Leavey
Rosalind Taranto, in honor of her birthday, from Marcia Schwarz
In honor of Mr. & Mrs. Mark Taylor, from Barbara & Richard Klaus
In honor of Ben Walker's work in Holocaust Education, from Ronit Walker & Matt Bronfman
Margaret Weiller, in honor of her birthday, from Elinor & Martin Arlook, Doddie Altman, Jeanette Arogeti, Barbara & Leonard Bock, Henrietta Gilbert, Billie Guthman, Lila Herbert, Jane & Bob Leavey, Randi & Sid Levy, Larry McDermott, Jackie & Tony Montag, Susan Stern
Margaret & Bill Weiller, in honor of their anniversary, from Jane & Bob Leavey
Irene & Howard Stein, in honor of their gallery at The High Museum of Art, from Elinor Breman
In honor of Nana & Baba Rice, from Jamie Bell
In honor of Mary Alice Steinheimer, from Henrietta Victor

BEST WISHES FOR A SPEEDY RECOVERY TO...

Peyton Alexander, from Jacquie & Ben Hirsch
Pola Arbiser, from the Board, Staff & VMEs of The Breman
Bonnie Aronin, from The Breman's Volunteer Museum Educators
Miriam Botnick, from Anta & Mendel Romm
Elinor Breman, from Harriet & Norman Zoller
Dean Coleman, from Anta & Mendel Romm
Abe Esral, from Jacquie & Ben Hirsch
Carole Goldberg, from Lois Blonder; the Board, Staff & VMEs of The Breman; Marlene Schwartz
Bob Leavey, from Linda & Mike Weinroth
Esther Levine, from Rosalind Taranto
Bob Pugrant, from the Volunteer Museum Educators, the Board & Staff of The Breman; Judy Cohen; Judy & Joel Schancupp
Joyce Shlesinger, from Elinor Breman, the Board & Staff of The Breman, Phyllis & Wayne Lazarus, Sue & Dick Stern
Saba Silverman, from the Board, Staff & VMEs of The Breman
Dr. Barry Yaffe, from Jacquie & Ben Hirsch
Norman Zoller, from Shirlye & Henry Birnbrey, Lois Blonder, Elinor Breman, the Board & Staff of The Breman, Judy & Ronnie Cohen, Warren Epstein, Sharon & Howard Fagin, Eve Goldstein, Jacquie & Ben Hirsch, Pearlann & Jerry Horowitz, Phyllis & Wayne Lazarus, Jane & Bob Leavey, Joan Pressman, Dr. & Mrs. Arnold Rubenstein, Rosalind Taranto, Linda & Michael Weinroth

MEMORIAL TRIBUTES/ CONDOLENCES TO...

Keith Abrams, in memory of Nathaniel Abrams, from R. Peter Fishman
Eleanor Beerman, in memory of Stuart Beerman, from Shirley & Perry Brickman
Esther Besser & Family, in memory of Jerry Besser, from the Board & Staff of The Breman
Marlene Gelernter Besser & Family, in memory of Faye Shemper, from Maddy & Ron Urken

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A Dusty Attic Yields Important Documents

by Sandra Berman, Archivist

Several months ago, I received a call from Rabbi Yechezkel Freundlich of Congregation Beth Jacob. Rabbi Freundlich asked if The Breman would be interested in a folder of documents that may have a connection to the Holocaust. The documents had been discovered in an attic by an individual who had just purchased a home in the synagogue's neighborhood.

October 1974. I could not locate an obituary for his wife, Grete.

I did discover that Adalbert and Grete did not have children, and that Adalbert's sole brother was living in Buenos Aires, Argentina, at the time.

I also learned from the obituary that Adalbert was a bookkeeper with M.K. Construction Company,

A Rare and Exceptional Album Quilt is Donated to The Breman

In 1983, the Atlanta Jewish Federation (now Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta) sponsored an exhibition at the Schatten Gallery at Emory University commemorating 250 years of Jewish life in Georgia. *Jews and Georgians: A Meeting of Cultures, 1733-1983* provided the momentum that encouraged Atlanta's leadership to explore the concept of establishing an Archive to preserve and protect treasures from the past.

One of the objects loaned for the exhibition at Emory was a textile described in the catalogue simply as "Handmade Quilt, each square completed by a different person, Atlanta, 1853." Unfortunately, the caption did not correctly describe the quilt, nor did it mention why or for whom the quilt was created.

This outstanding example of a Victorian-era Album, or Friendship, quilt was completed in the early 1850s. Album quilts were not just made for warmth or beauty, but were made with the intention of expressing love and friendship to the recipient.

This quilt was the inspiration of Charlotte Joseph of Georgetown, South Carolina, as a gift to her sister, Eleanor Solomons, who was moving to Savannah, Georgia, to be closer to her sons, Lizar and Abraham Alexander, who had settled there.

Sixty-three individuals, identified in ink on the back of the quilt, added their talents to the undertaking. Judith Shanks, a descendant of Eleanor Solomons, who was gifted the quilt by her cousin, Cecil Alexander, and who recently donated this family treasure to The Breman, researched the relationship between all sixty-three women and Eleanor Solomons.



Adelbert's ration card from Vienna, 1939.

The papers, delivered to The Breman by the rabbi, were in a worn folder that had not protected them from the layers of filth that had accumulated during the years they were ensconced in the attic.

After cleaning the documents, we ascertained, with the assistance of Breman Trustee, Henry Birnbrey, that the material had belonged to Adelbert and Grete Weibel Schueck, a couple who had emigrated from Vienna to Atlanta in the late 1930s.

The folder held many secrets concerning the Schueck's past, including correspondence relating to the employment of both Adelbert and Grete, report cards from school, and ration coupons issued by the Nazis, on which, in accordance with the Nuremberg laws, the middle names of Israel and Sara were added.

Most importantly, the file held a rare document that certified Schueck as a full Jew, even though he had been baptized as a Catholic when he was placed in an orphanage as a baby.

The discovery of the documents encouraged me to try and locate any descendants of the Schuecks. The index to the *Southern Israelite* newspaper, available through The Breman's website, allowed me to quickly locate Adalbert's obituary; he died in

owned by Max Kuniansky. Max's son, David, remembered him quite well, but could not provide any additional information about his family.

The chance of finding any living relatives remains remote. The discovery of the documents, however, has insured that the Schuecks will remain a part of history and that their experiences in Nazi-occupied Austria will not be forgotten.



Eleanor Solomons Album Quilt.

According to Shanks, the quilters included family friends as well as Rinah, the black household slave, who was the nurse to both of Eleanor Solomons children.

This heirloom quilt has been cherished by Eleanor Solomons' descendants for the last 150 years. It will continue to be cherished and protected as part of The Breman's permanent collection.

New acquisitions to the Archives are supported by the Rae Alice and Bernard Cohen Memorial Endowment Fund, given with love by their children, Alan & Pam Cohen, Dayl Cohen, Dr. Perry Cohen & Mrs. Rosalie Mandelbaum

Pieces of Seuss Exhibition Find New Homes

"Of course," Horton answered. "Of course I will stick. I'll stick by you small folks through thin and through thick!"

—*Horton Hears a Who*, by Dr. Seuss

So said Horton the elephant, as he retrieved, from the field of clover, the speck of dust that was home to the town and inhabitants of Whoville.

For all of you who enjoyed The Breman's recent presentation of its original exhibition *Dr. Seuss Goes to War...and More!*, we know you will be pleased to know that the large, life-size sculpture of Horton the elephant has found a new home at the Museum School in Avondale. We trust that the children of that new charter elementary school will love and enjoy him as much as we did!

Some of our banners, including the one featuring the Sneeches, can be seen in the upstairs story room at The Little Shop of Stories in Decatur. The fabulous Whoville-like musical instruments, created for the exhibition by the folks from Earthshaking Music in East Atlanta, will soon resonate from the College Heights Early Childhood Learning Center in Decatur.

And last but not least, many other pieces from the exhibition will be found decorating the annual Dr. Seuss birthday party presented by the Anne Jackson Gallery in Roswell. The gallery generously loaned us several pieces of art from some of the Seuss children's books featured in the exhibition.



Spencer, a visitor to *Dr. Seuss Goes to War...and More!* shows how it's done.

Sam Arbiser Menorah is a Tree of Life

by Judy Cohen,
Breman Volunteer Museum Educator

School groups that tour the *Absence of Humanity* Holocaust exhibition, are privileged to hear a survivor speaker share his or her story with them, usually in the Arbiser Family Theatre. Pola and Sam Arbiser generously dedicated the theater in remembrance of their families who perished in the Holocaust.



Sam has once again commemorated his family — this time through a striking piece of art, which he designed and recently has had fabricated. The four-and-a-half-foot tall, 120-pound brass menorah is perched on a pedestal in the Arbiser's living room to be seen by them and their visitors every day.

Although the menorah is metal, to Sam, it is a living Tree of Life. The polished leaves represent life, growth and new generations, spreading toward the sky and G-d.

Sam established the Arbiser Machine Building Company in 1964. He sold his successful business in 2002, but has maintained close relationships with several industry colleagues, five of whom offered to manufacture his menorah free of charge.

Sam stated that the creation of the Tree of Life Menorah began over eight months ago and was completed soon after he became confined to a wheel chair. Since the Arbiser's are less mobile these days, they are enjoying the phone calls and visits from their Breman family and many friends with whom they proudly share the beautifully displayed menorah, engraved "Samuel and Pola Arbiser 2010."

The Cuba Archives and the Esther & Herbert Taylor Oral History Project are supported in part by:

Elaine & Miles Alexander and Family
Judith & Elliott Cohen

The Rae Alice and Bernard Cohen Memorial Endowment Fund

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Marilyn & Sam Eckstein

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The Lyons and Jo Heyman Family Foundation

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Jewish Federation of Columbus, Georgia

The Charles & Esther Lee Kimerling Charitable Foundation

Sol Kimerling

Madelyn* & Herbert Shessel

Judith & Mark Taylor

Every effort was made to ensure the accuracy of this listing. We apologize for any errors or omissions.

*z"l

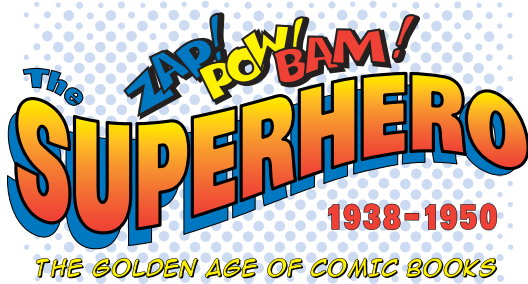
**Announcing the Establishment of
THE GENOCIDE PREVENTION INSTITUTE
at The Breman
Acting on "Never Again" Through
Education and Advocacy**

**For more information, contact Dr. Lili Baxter at
lbaxter@thebreman.org or 404-870-1872**

Exhibitions, Programs & Events

EXTENDED!

NOW THROUGH MAY 8, 2011



Proudly sponsored by:



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This program is supported in part by the City of Atlanta Office of Cultural Affairs.



All public programs take place on Sundays at 2 p.m. unless otherwise stated.

BEARING WITNESS

Hear the unforgettable personal story of an Atlanta Holocaust survivor followed by a guided tour of The Breman's Holocaust gallery. Recommended for 5th grade and above.



March 13
George Rishfeld,
survivor from
Poland



April 3
Penina Bowman,
survivor from
Romania



May 1
46th Annual Community-wide Holocaust Remembrance Day Commemoration, Memorial to the Six Million, Greenwood Cemetery, 10:30 a.m., rain or shine.
Guest speaker: Eva Baron, survivor from Hungary

Express Yourself!

Mid-May – Sept. 4, 2011

This new interactive exhibition, created in the spirit of *Every Picture Tells a Story*, celebrates children's books and the many different ways one's creative side can be expressed through music, food, writing, reading, art, dance, clothes, sports, and acting. More information coming soon!

Save the Dates!

April 15, 2011
Seder with Flowers (see page 7 for details)

May 2
Marvelous Monday!

Please call Phyllis at 404-870-7684 for more information.

Please contact Phyllis at plazarus@thebreman.org if you have changed your e-mail address recently, so that you'll stay in the know!

ZAP! POW! BAM! Film Series

Sunday, March 20

The New Adventures of Wonder Woman (1975)



After the megillah – join us for trivia, prizes, and fun for all ages!

It's the original TV pilot set during WWII with Lynda Carter as the iconic feminist superhero (SHE-ZAM! March is Women's History

Month) who battles Nazis, of course.

A surprisingly camp and humorous take on the comic book character, co-starring Cloris Leachman, Henry Gibson, Lyle Waggoner, Stella Stevens and other well-known comic actors of the '70s.

Attire: Purim and spandex (oy!) friendly!

Sunday, March 27

Snow in August (2001)



Starring Stephen Rea and Lolita Davidovich, based on the novel by Pete Hamill

Pete Hamill's stirring saga set in post WWII Brooklyn—a young Irish boy learns the meaning of courage and the complexities of life when faced with dangerous bullies.

Heart wrenching challenges about being a bystander are shockingly dramatized. Does it really take a Superman (or a Golem) to survive then or even today?

Rabbi Phil Kranz (senior rabbi of Temple Sinai in Atlanta, 1980–2006) will introduce the film followed by a Q & A session on the links between Superman, the Golem, and the city of Cleveland, hometown of the creators of Superman and Rabbi Kranz!



Comings & Goings

The Breman's much-admired exhibition, *Seeking Justice: The Leo Frank Case Revisited* opened to rave reviews last month at the Jewish Museum of Florida in Miami's South Beach. While the exhibition has quite a different look in Miami because of the nature of the gallery space there, it tells the same powerful story there as was told in Atlanta.



Seeking Justice arrives in Miami in perfect condition, thanks to the specially-designed and fabricated packing trunks.



Installation of the exhibition in Miami.

One of the early public programs Florida held in conjunction with the exhibition featured Atlanta's own Dale Schwartz, one of the attorneys who worked for a number of years and finally secured a posthumous pardon from the State of Georgia for Frank. The Florida Holocaust Museum in St. Petersburg will host the exhibition after it leaves Miami.

ZAP! POW! BAM! will remain at The Breman delighting comic book fans of all ages until May 8th, and then travels to Arizona and the gallery at Scottsdale Public Art. This venue had great success when it hosted The Breman's *Where the Wild Things Are: Maurice Sendak in His Own Words & Pictures* in the spring of 2010 and we believe that ZPB will also attract enthusiastic crowds.

Breman Speakers Share Stories of Survival at UGA

On Sunday, November 14, 2010, a large group of Breman Holocaust survivor speakers interacted with an enthusiastic group of students on campus at the University of Georgia. Nearly 250 students attended the event, which was sponsored by the campus Hillel chapter and co-sponsored by the UGA Student Government Association and the Departments of Germanic and Slavic Studies.

The program was inspired by Joel Markowitz, Hillel Advisor, and UGA senior and former Breman Museum intern, Hilary Gray of Marietta, and drew the attention of students from every school and department on the Athens campus.

The intent of the program was to have individual survivors seated at tables in the Tate Student Center Grand Ballroom with no more than 10-12 students, so that their messages would be personal and direct. At the end of each speaker's presentation, students were encouraged to ask questions. Many were emotionally moved by what they heard.

A brief overview of the Holocaust was given by survivor Ben Walker, originally of Romania. Following Mr. Walker's remarks, survivors Albert Baron, Henry Birnbrey, Manuela Bornstein, Mariella Crea (second generation) Henry Gallant, Henry Lewin (second generation), Herbert Kohn, Stan Lefco (second generation) Kaiila Gutman, Eugen Schoenfeld, Sam Silbiger, and Werner Spiegel spoke with individual groups of students for over an hour.

Transportation for survivor speakers between The Breman and Athens was provided by the UGA Hillel.

On the Thursday prior to this event, Tosia Schneider shared her personal story of survival with an overflowing crowd of students who are enrolled



Photo courtesy of The Red and Black

in the University's German and Slavic Studies Department.

According to Breman staff member Mike Weinroth, "a whole new community learned of personal loss and struggles to survive on a deeply personal level." In addition, the UGA student newspaper, *The Red and Black*, one of the largest independent college/university newspapers in the country, carried this event with photos on its front page.

Seder With Flowers

Don't miss the Third Annual Seder with Flowers! Create a beautiful flower arrangement ready for your Passover Seder table and have lunch provided by Added Touch Catering by Sandra Bank.

Join us for a terrific morning at Neiman Marcus, Friday, April 15, at 10:30 a.m.

Good fun, good food, and your participation will benefit The Breman's **Holocaust Education programs.**

Only 100 places available. Tickets are \$100 (\$65 tax deductible).

RSVP to Phyllis Lazarus at plazarus@thebreman.org or reserve your place online at www.thebreman.org/flowers.



Barbara Babbitt Kaufman, and her daughter, Betsy Babbitt Perkel, creating stunning flower arrangements for their Passover Seder table.

In loving memory of Bernard Birnbaum, the best man we ever knew, from Dikla, George, Ariel & Noa Birnbaum
Dr. Steven Chervin, in memory of his mother,
Leah Chervin, from the Board & Staff of The Breman
Alan Elsas & Family, in memory of Alan's mother,
Edith Elsas, from Jarvin Levison
Ron Feinberg, in memory of his mother, Helen Feinberg,
from the Board and Staff of The Breman
Roz & Gene Feingold, in memory of their daughter,
Leslie Schwartz, from Mimi & Phil Callner
Mark Field, in memory of his mother, Marilyn Field, from
Fran & Gary Kamp
Estelle Finer, in memory of Stuart Beerman, from Shirley
& Perry Brickman
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Staff of The Breman
In loving memory of Simon Zwern, whose smile and
gentleness will never be forgotten, from Dikla, George,
Ariel & Noa Birnbaum

Stories of Holocaust Survivors Brought to Life on Film

By Ron Feinberg

A wave of emotion sweeps across the features of Murray Lynn as he describes the murder of his family. It's a momentary blip, a break in his stoic demeanor as he recalls the Holocaust and the madness that swept across the world nearly seven decades ago.

"Unconquered", featuring Murray Lynn, is the first of several films being produced as part of a project spearheaded by volunteers at The Breman Jewish Heritage and Holocaust Museum in an effort to preserve the stories of the Holocaust survivors who speak to visitors at The Breman.

It is also a unique and compelling way to connect with the thousands of people – especially students from schools in the region – visiting The Breman each year. The museum's *Absence of Humanity* Gallery exhibits archival photos, video interviews, mementos and artifacts that detail the rise of Nazism in Germany and across Europe, but it's the personal stories offered by The Breman Holocaust survivor speakers that grab the attention of most visitors. The films are an attempt to reproduce this very intimate experience when survivor speakers are no longer able to share their stories in person.

"Survivors offer a connection, a way to understand what really happened during the Holocaust," says Eve Goldstein who, along with George Stern, chairs the Breman's Holocaust Survivors Legacy Committee. The group was formed when it became clear the survivor community was aging and it was only a matter of time before their stories would become fading memories and, sadly, be lost.

"We knew it was important to find a way to preserve the stories of the Holocaust," Goldstein says. The committee also realized it wasn't enough just to document the memories, that the testimony needed to be captured in a way which children can relate and remember.

That mission has become the challenge of a couple of area filmmakers, Simeon Smith and Adam Stoner. Both have volunteered their time and talent, spending countless hours researching and developing the stories of The Breman survivor speakers.

"These two men are doing this out of the goodness of their hearts," says Judy Cohen, one of the members of The Breman's Legacy committee. "The sacrifices they have made are really phenomenal."

Stoner, an independent filmmaker with years of experience in Hollywood, has worked on major motion pictures and handled a variety of positions in the industry –director, writer, editor. He returned home to Atlanta several years ago and now splits his time between here and Los Angeles.

Although he spends a great deal of time these days teaching the craft of filmmaking, he also creates and produces documentaries. Fortunately for The Breman, Stoner was willing to help out when he learned about the Legacy Project.

"I wanted to give something back to the Jewish Community," he says, "that offered me so much as a youngster and teen."

Stoner is in the process of pulling together a movie that documents the story of Penina Bowman, a Holocaust survivor he thinks is remarkable. "Penny is incredibly brave, a very rare and special person," he says.

The research and interviews are complete. Now Stoner's mission is to craft a film from 10 hours of interviews, 3 to 4 hours of archival footage, and 600 pieces of photographic evidence supporting the background story.

"Penny was willing to share every detail of her story," he says. "Now I'm looking for what's

between the lines and produce something that speaks on a deeper level so audiences can feel her journey."

Smith, the driving force behind "Unconquered," is the president of Untapped Media Productions, a full service film and video production company. For years he worked as a reporter in local broadcast markets, including Atlanta's NBC affiliate, WXIA-TV, before turning his attention and offering his considerable talents to corporate America.

In recent years, however, the award-winning journalist started missing the important work he had done as a reporter. "I began longing for a time when I could do some solid work that would have an impact," he says. I needed to find a really special project."

Smith has been interested in the Holocaust for years. His father was in the military and as a teen he had lived in Germany. At the time, memories of the war remained fresh – it was the early 1960s – and reminders of the war and Holocaust were all about.



Murray (Leicht), Lynn, Bratislava, Czechoslovakia, 1947.

continued on page 10



The Unusual Winner of the 2010 National Jewish Book Award: Christopher R. Browning's *Remembering Survival*

by Liliane Kshensky Baxter, Ph.D.
Director, Weinberg Center for Holocaust Education at The Breman

Listen attentively and remember above all that true tales are meant to be transmitted – to keep them to oneself is to betray them.

—Elie Wiesel, *Souls on Fire*

A most unusual book has won this year's National Jewish Book Award in the Holocaust category. Written by Christopher R. Browning, the author of the acclaimed *Ordinary Men*, it does something quite remarkable, I think — it constructs history almost entirely from the perspective of Jewish eyewitness accounts.

Most Holocaust histories are written from the perspective of documents and records, and center on major events and turning-points, such as Kristallnacht, the invasion of Poland in 1939, the ghettos, the deportations, and the death camps.

In these narratives, the Jewish perspective, if acknowledged at all, is overwhelmed by the focus on German attack and action, and the torrent of Nazi records. How the Jews acted and reacted is generally left to the writers of Holocaust memoirs and fictional narratives.

Remembering Survival: Inside a Nazi Slave-Labor Camp does something else entirely. It is solid history composed almost entirely from Jewish eyewitness accounts. It's history "from the ground up," micro-history, as Browning calls it, and concerns a small group of slave-labor camps supporting the Starachowice factory in the Radom district of Poland that produced materials for the German military and industry, of which there were thousands throughout Europe.

This testimony is especially valuable given the near total lack of surviving contemporary documents about this factory — itself a rarity, considering the Nazi obsession with record-keeping.

Browning lists the entire extent of documentation: "one Wierzbniak-Starachowice community memorial book, one English-language memoir, one autobiographical pamphlet, one autobiographical article, one chapter of a Yiddish memoir, one chapter of an electronically-posted memoir, and one portion of a second-generation family study."

To supplement this paltry amount of printed material, Browning uses transcribed, taped and written eyewitness accounts by 292 survivors, taken over a span of 60 years. With this material, he recreates the daily struggles, the moral dilemmas and the critical turning-points within the community.

Working with these testimonies, Browning explores the process of remembering and the layers of memory: public and shared. The deepest layer consists of "repressed" memories, in which the witness is not aware of what has been experienced. Next, are "secret" memories, which are so searing and painful (like witnessing rape or murder, or making "choiceless choices," such as stealing bread from another to keep oneself alive, or deserting a family member or friend, or worse of all, choosing one child over another).

These secret memories may be remembered, and may torment the survivor, but are rarely, if ever, shared. Next, are "communal" memories which are shared and discussed among survivors from the same town or camp. And finally, there are "public" memories, which form the bulk of survivor testimonies and the eyewitness accounts upon which Browning built his book.

We tend to think that the earlier accounts of survivors were the most accurate because they were recorded closest to the time of their occurrence, but that isn't always the case. Browning notes that "public" memories changed with time based on their content. This is particularly true of shame-associated events such as rapes or revenge killings.

For example, only in recent years has the subject of the rape of Jewish women come into public discussion. Sensitivity to the shame of the surviving victims kept eyewitnesses from openly relating these events. Only upon the death of one such victim was her horrendous rape, observed by many, discussed openly in the eye-witness accounts Browning was studying.

Revenge killings of Jewish *kapos* (the Jewish police that collaborated with the Germans) — which seems to have occurred in a train taking Jews from the Starachowice factory to Auschwitz — were also kept under wraps by eyewitnesses until very recently.

We can guess the many reasons why. Thus, a "secret" memory comes into public knowledge and becomes our communal memory. We wonder at the moral complexity of life during those awful years, above all aware of the hollowness of facile moral judgments.

I find two things particularly uplifting about Browning's book. First, his deep understanding of Jewish self-determination during those years because of his close study of these Jewish accounts. He rejects the false dichotomy of resistance vs. passivity that set the tone for discussion in the first decades after the Holocaust. Neither of these words fully describe Jewish survival.

We need a different vocabulary to describe their struggle for survival, and I would suggest words such as ingenuity, resourcefulness, adaptability, perseverance, and endurance.

"We need a different vocabulary to describe their struggle for survival, and I would suggest words such as ingenuity, resourcefulness, adaptability, perseverance, and endurance as the most appropriate and accurate." he writes.

I wholeheartedly agree.

Having grown up hearing survivor stories, then formally studying and teaching Holocaust narratives, especially memoirs, at Emory, I arrived at the same understanding, and have created for our Breman education program a handout for docents, teachers and students called "The 4Rs – Jewish Resourcefulness, Resistance, Rescue, and Resilience." Once Jewish action is included in the story of the Holocaust, we get a richer, more nuanced, more impressive understanding of Jewish overcoming.

Another thing that thrills me about Browning's book is its moral outrage. In 1972, the Hamburg Court acquitted Walther Becker, the Nazi police chief of Starachowice, of war crimes committed against Jews despite the testimonies of 125 survivors.

Thirty years before, Becker had been responsible for sending 4,000 Jews to their deaths at Treblinka and 1,600 to slave labor in the local munitions factories.

"It was this egregious miscarriage of justice, amplified by the dismissal of the testimony of all Jewish witnesses" that first drew Browning to this study, he writes. "If Becker had escaped German justice, I felt that he at least could be given his appropriate place in historians' hell."

Let us hope that this book rattles present-day Hamburg as Jan Gross' *Neighbors* did the Polish town of Jedwabne and Poland itself. After almost 40 years, Hamburg might need to revisit this miscarriage of justice.

Stories on Film *continued from page 8*

“I worked with Germans and I would get in discussions with them about the war,” he says. “There was a woman who worked for my family and she recalled seeing Jews vanish in her community, unsure of what was happening.”

Murray Lynn was absolutely certain what had happened to his family and the thousands of other Hungarian Jews caught up in the Holocaust. When Smith learned The Breman was interested in documenting Lynn’s story, he knew he had stumbled onto a perfect project — an important story that needed to be told and recorded.

Smith spent hours with Lynn — at his home, at the Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta and at The Breman. He researched the events leading up to the Holocaust and pulled together archival footage detailing the Nazis rise to power and fall into madness. He managed to get the normally reserved Lynn to open up and recount the horror of the times. Smith also arranged to get Andrew Young — former U.S. Congressman, U.N. Ambassador and Mayor of Atlanta — to narrate the film.

“Unconquered” is a compelling piece of work, a documentary that provides an overview of the Holocaust while capturing the very personal account of one man’s life and journey. It’s exactly what The Breman’s Legacy committee was hoping to create when they first began discussing their mission.

“We wanted something that would connect emotionally with the students visiting the museum,” says Dr. Liliane Baxter, director of the Weinberg Center for Holocaust Education at The Breman.

The personal stories of survivors have always been the best way to reach people, Baxter and others at the museum report. Now those stories are being documented and the iconic message of survivors — “Never Forget” — is being passed on to yet another generation.

WANT TO HELP?

The Breman Jewish Heritage and Holocaust Museum is hoping to produce additional documentaries of their survivor speakers. Filmmakers wanting to take part in this important work and individuals interested in donating funds to the project should contact:

Liliane Kshensky Baxter, Ph.D.

Director, The Lillian & AJ Weinberg Center for Holocaust Education at The Breman Museum

lbaxter@thebreman.org

(404) 870-1872

With deep appreciation to the following for new major support during this past year:

Annie Birnbaum & Family, to underwrite the Summer Institute for Teaching the Holocaust for the next five years

Anonymous, for the establishment of the Institute for the Prevention of Genocide Studies at The Breman

Elinor Breman, for underwriting the Breman newsletter this year in honor of Bill Breman

City of Atlanta Office of Cultural Affairs, for exhibition support

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Paradies Shops, for the redesign of the Elinor Rosenberg Breman Museum Shop

The Rich Foundation, for exhibition and marketing support

Jerry & Dulcy Rosenberg and Family, for major support in honor of Elinor Breman of the Seuss exhibition, the redesign of The Breman’s Website and development of the online exhibition
New Lives: Coming to America

Stanley Srochi, in support of the digitization and indexing of the *Southern Israelite*

President’s Message

continued from page 2

other museum members who have created or have committed to create their own Jewish Legacy. I am confident that more of our Board members will make similar commitments in the months ahead. We also intend to contact the faithful members of The Breman to ask you to consider making such a commitment as well.

I have made such a commitment. And I hope that you will too.

Jane (404/870-1861), Howard (404/401-4837), or I (770/396-2428) will be happy to give you more information about Creating Your Jewish Legacy. Just call us — it’s easier to do than you think. And thank you for considering this important step — this important gift from our generation to the next.

Norman Zoller
President, Breman Museum Board of Trustees



The Breman is a Blue Star Museum, and will provide free admission to active duty military personnel and their families between Memorial Day and Labor Day

Economically, comic books were big business. One of the first entertainment products marketed directly to children and young people, comics at the height of their popularity were sold in thousands of neighborhood “Mom-and-Pop” stores and newsstands, and read in millions of homes.



Detective Comics #71. Cover art by Jerry Robinson. © 1942 DC Comics. Batman, Robin & The Joker™ and © DC Comics. All rights Reserved. Used with Permission. From the collection of Jerry Robinson.

In Jewish tradition, the phrase “tikun olam” is usually translated as repairing the world and encapsulates the role of humanity in society. It was the superheroes who took on that role during the years 1938 to 1950, the Golden Age of Comic Books. Their exploits reflected the political, economic and social issues of the times. In a world dealing with economic depression and facing World War II, it was the superhero, whose alter ego was an ordinary person, who came to the rescue, righting the ills of the world and securing “truth, justice and the American way”!

There are many ways to be a hero. The Breman’s signature galleries illuminate universal concepts of respect for humanity and responsible citizenship. The stories in those galleries, both tragic and triumphant, reveal that “ordinary people” doing the right thing and behaving the right way can be heroes.



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Tales From the Front Desk



by *Judi Ayal*,
Director of Visitor Services

There is so much about my job at The Breman that

I love: greeting the interesting mix of folks who come through our doors; explaining why a Jewish museum would have an exhibition on Dr. Seuss or Superheroes, sharing how the Atlanta Jewish community was so welcoming to refugees from the 1930s, 1940s and 50s through today; watching people’s reaction to finding out that Miss Daisy’s temple is right up the street; and working with an outstanding staff as well as a dedicated, intelligent, capable and talented cadre of volunteers!

But by far, one of my most favorite parts of what I do is interacting with teachers – they come through for us and their students year after year, and we do our best to be there for them.

The teachers so appreciate our understanding when they have to reschedule tours (sometimes more than once) because of “circumstances beyond their control” (sports events, school-wide assemblies, testing, or, yes, snow). They appreciate the educational materials we send them prior to their tours to help prepare their students.

They especially appreciate the kindness and attentiveness of our VMEs, our Volunteer Museum Educators. They tell me how much their students look forward to coming to The Breman.

I really felt for one teacher this September who, after last year’s April trip from Forsyth County, had asked her travel company to book the same tour, same time for 2011. By the time the travel company contacted us, the date was already booked for another school. The teacher sent an email to me, hoping against hope that I could magically make the date open up for her. She wrote:

Our 5th graders have been visiting the Breman Museum for the past three years as one of our venues on our trip. After surveying our students each year AFTER our trip – the students unanimously select the Breman as their favorite venue on the trip. This is pretty impressive as we go to the Aquarium, Cyclorama, Piedmont Park and the Varsity as well as the Breman. We do an extensive study of WWII and the Holocaust in our Social Studies Curriculum and we read several novels We were extremely disappointed the tour company told us that you were already booked up for the April 28, 2011 field trip date and were hoping that this was just an oversight.

We, as educators, feel that if our children do not get the background, emotional connections, and personal stories that are related to the Holocaust then the effects of this horrific era in history may slip away from our curriculum. We have had families to come visit you from our school because the 5th grader in the home liked it so much.

We would LOVE for the Breman Museum to look and see if there was any chance at all that we could visit the Breman on the day that we are on our trip. We certainly would like to bring this year’s students to the Breman for such a powerful and educational visit.

I was truly sorry that I couldn’t, but we are planning to send a speaker out to her and her students!

So, how are we doing this year? While statistics don’t tell the whole story, I am happy to report that we seem to have at least a 10% increase in the number of tours this year so far, and very few slots are left in our calendar this year – especially since so many schools can only come in the morning, as the public school buses have to get back for their early afternoon runs. Every year I encourage teachers to book tours early, saying over and over “August is not too early to book your tours for the coming spring!” We started a waiting list in January this year, beginning what I call our “shoe horn” period, when we do our best to accommodate every school that wants to come or have a speaker come to them. Even Sunday becomes an option for some schools!

I have had the joy, the privilege, of booking all the tours here since Day One in 1996, averaging over 250 school tours a year. So now when teachers contact us the name of the school often rings a bell, but it’s a bit of jumble in my head. To give you an idea:

There’s Brookwood, Westwood, Westside, Eastside, East Cobb, Westminister, North Minister, Northside, Riverside, Riverdale, E. Rivers, Flint Rivers, Berkeley Lake; Johns Creek, Vickery Creek, Bay Creek, Meadow Creek, Creekland;

and Coan, Cowen, Cohen;

Bright Star, Blue Star, Starling;

as well as: Mt. Bethel, Mt. Vernon; New Creation Christian, Landmark Christian; Mary Lin; Immaculate Heart of Mary, Maryville; Marist, Saint Pius, Saint Paul, Saint Peter, Saint John, Saint Joseph, Saint Martin, Holy Innocence, Holy Trinity, Our Lady of Mercy, Queen of Angels, Christ the King,

Brandeis, Hillel, Chabad, B’nai Torah, Ahavath Achim, The Temple, Temple University, Temple of Israel, Dor Tamid, Davis, Temple Emanu-El, Kol Emet, Kehillat Chaim, Beth Tikvah, Beth Shalom, Torah Day, Temima, Weber, Yeshiva and the International Chevra Kadisha!

The most heartwarming experience is when I ask a teacher whose school doesn’t sound familiar: “How did you hear about us?” and the teacher, without skipping a beat responds: “Oh, I came here when I was a student and now I want to bring my students here for the same experience.” What wonderful *nachas* (joyful pride) for us all!

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THE BREMAN STAFF

Judi Ayal

Visitor Services & VME Support
jayal@thebremen.org 404-870-1632

Liliane Kshensky Baxter, Ph.D.

Director, Lillian & A.J. Weinberg Center
for Holocaust Education
lbaxter@thebremen.org 404-870-1872

Sandra Berman

Archivist
sberman@thebremen.org 404-870-1862

Jennifer Campbell

Curator, Special Exhibitions
jcampbell@thebremen.org 404-870-1871

Ruth Einstein

Special Projects, Webmaster, Newsletter Editor
reinstein@thebremen.org 678-222-3732

Demece Mickey Harvey

Archival Assistant
dharvey@thebremen.org 404-870-1629

Debbie James

Controller
djames@thebremen.org 678-222-3737

Phyllis Lazarus

Marketing / Media Relations
plazarus@thebremen.org 404-870-7684

Jane Leavey

Executive Director
jleavey@thebremen.org 404-870-1861

Sally Levine

Specialist for Teacher & Curriculum
Development
slevine@thebremen.org 678-222-3700

Maureen MacLaughlin

Archival Assistant, Librarian
mmaclaughlin@thebremen.org 678-222-3752

Judy Schancupp

Membership/Museum Shop
jschancupp@thebremen.org 678-222-3707

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Sunday Visitor Services

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Holocaust Education Speakers
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Breman Museum Membership

Listing as of February 15, 2011. Every effort was made to ensure the accuracy of all information; we apologize for any errors.

The Breman relies on revenue generated from its membership base in order to provide valuable programs and services to the community each year.

Thank you to all our members at every level. Your support makes a difference!

***Thank you and welcome to The Breman's new members! Thanks also to all who have upgraded their membership level!**

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Proof positive that The Breman's staff are superheroes! From left, clockwise, Phyllis Lazarus helps Superman take on the forces of evil; Mickey Harvey, Phyllis and Judy Schancupp make the museum safe for all humankind; Jane Leavey comes to the rescue; and junior staffers Benjamin and Jacob Leavey go where they are needed in the Batmobile!





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Passover Raspberry Squares

Dairy/Pareve/Passover, Serves 8 – 10

- | | | | |
|---|--|--|------------------------------------|
| 8 | ounces unsalted butter or pareve margarine | | cup sugar |
| 2 | large egg yolks | | teaspoon vanilla |
| 2 | cups Passover cake meal | | (12-ounce) jar raspberry preserves |

Preheat oven to 325°. Cream butter or margarine. Mix in all ingredients, except preserves. Remove from mixing bowl, roll into ball. Place 1/4 of mixture in plastic bag, freeze. Spray 11x8-inch or 9-inch glass baking dish with non-stick spray. Press remaining dough into bottom of pan, bake 20 minutes. Remove from oven, spread with preserves. Remove dough from freezer, crumble on top of preserves, pressing down gently. Bake 30 minutes longer, remove from oven. Cool, then cut into squares.

**The Breman's fabulous cookbook,
Seasoned With Love,
Originally \$32.95, Now only \$25!**