

Remember

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Winter 2007

Remembrance is Continuing the Resistance

October 3, 2006: The New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education partnered with the Raoul Wallenberg Committee of New Jersey and the Koppelman Holocaust Resource Center of Rider University in presenting a program commemorating the 25th anniversary of Raoul Wallenberg's having become an honorary United States citizen. Dr. Marvin Makinen, Professor of Molecular Biology at the University of Chicago, chief researcher for the International Commission on the Fate and Whereabouts of Raoul Wallenberg – and former prisoner in the Soviet Gulag – was the keynote speaker; Dr. Vera Goodkin, one of Wallenberg's children, shared her experiences with the Angel of Budapest.

Generations of Shoah Event

September 10, 2006 marked a first totally unique statewide event of monumental importance: a conference of 150 children and grandchildren of survivors from every corner of New Jersey shared their stories, tears and commitment to carry on the legacy of their loved ones.

Sponsored jointly by the New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education and Generations of the Shoah International-New Jersey, the program featured a keynote address by novelist Thane Rosenbaum, Professor at Fordham University's School of Law – followed by a panel discussion on artistic responses to the Holocaust; a reading of "Dear Esther", the play about Sobibor survivor Esther Raab; as well as workshops dealing with psychological and other essential issues facing the second and third generations of the Shoah. These included Barbara Wind's poetry in "Jacob's Angels"; the choreography of Carolyn Dorfman; filmmaker Will Kahane; actress/playwright Naava Piatka and photographer Debbie Teicholz-Guedalia.

Dr. Paul Winkler emphasized that the goal of this unique conference was to develop a synergy in the state, to build an excitement about carrying the torch forward. Barbara Wind, Director of the Holocaust Council of United Jewish Federation MetroWest and Dina Cohen, Coordinator of GSI-New Jersey and member of the Holocaust Council of MetroWest are members of a group of about 5,000 members of the second generation in New Jersey. Barbara Wind reminded participants that this event marked the first formal recognition of GSI-New Jersey, heirs to a legacy and a sacred duty of perpetuating that legacy through commemoration and education. Dina Cohen expressed the hope that this conference would serve as a model for others across the nation.

Founder of GSI and President of Generations After, Esther Toporek Finder, was happy to get together with her brothers and sisters from New Jersey and plans to replicate the program "at home" in Washington, D.C. Survivor Judy Sherman spoke about the awesome responsibility of "witnessing the witnesses". There was general agreement that the legacy cannot deal only with pain.

The participating artists characterized themselves as messengers - whether their message came in the form of Auschwitz documentaries; slides and photographic collages; the theater or novels. In his keynote address, Thane Rosenbaum alluded to the shared spiritual danger, a sense of forbidden knowledge, a "shared intimacy of madness" that create the common denominator among members of the generations of the Shoah. All agreed the torch must not be dropped or lost.

Chair of the Jewish Studies Department at Rutgers, and second generation survivor, Gary Rendsburg, concluded by saying he constantly felt the immense importance of continuing to ponder the meaning of being heir to the Shoah and his generation's responsibility to keep telling the story.

The Impact of Adopt-a-Survivor

Tyler Barnes, one of the Ewing High School students, who adopted Dr. Vera Goodkin early in her junior year and has kept in regular contact with her since, e-mailed her a copy of her college application essay. Brief quotes from this essay demonstrate how valuable this program is in creating bonds between survivors and young people who commit themselves to carrying the torch. Responding to the question: "Evaluate a significant experience or achievement that has special meaning for you," Tyler wrote the following: "During my sophomore year of high school, I was asked to join a program that would give me the opportunity of a lifetime.

If I decided to dedicate myself to the Adopt-a-Survivor Program, I would be a part of history. I didn't know much about the Holocaust but was more than excited to learn. The Program introduced me to a woman who would change my life."

Having recounted some specifics, she continued: "Befriending a Holocaust survivor is an achievement that I am most proud of. Together, we can all remember. I am looking forward to doing my friend a favor by retelling her story as many times as I can. I won't wait until 2045, for I have already started." Tyler ends her essay by declaring: "I have accomplished something that not many people can say they have done as well. It separates me from the ordinary because I decided to pursue a history making project that I didn't know much about. I walked out with a new state of mind about the world's history and future. Encouraging others to become familiar with Holocaust and genocide awareness is something I would like to pursue. I will pass my documents on as an heirloom, so that my family can understand my view on world issues past and present – and how they will affect the future."

EDITOR'S APPEAL

Please forward information on all Holocaust/Genocide education activities to The Holocaust Commission, PO Box 500, Trenton, New Jersey 08625. Fax: 609-292-1211



The Big Secret

October 16, 2006 - A large gathering of friends and well-wishers in front of 100 Riverview Executive Plaza brought to a crescendo the "Great Conspiracy" afoot at the New Jersey Department of Education, in general, and the New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education family, in particular. The place had been abuzz for weeks with elaborate preparations to celebrate a significant event: Dr. Paul Winkler's 70th birthday. Yet, unbelievably, we were able to keep the upcoming event a secret – largely through the untiring efforts of Judy Baker and her sister Carol.

Convinced he would be called upon to welcome the new Commissioner, Paul sauntered out of the building, totally oblivious to the composition of the crowd which included people from all phases of his many prior careers in education who did not "belong". When it finally dawned on him that all of us were there to honor him, Paul was uncharacteristically at a loss for words – particularly when he found out that an endowment, already at \$3,000, to reward excellence in teaching the Holocaust was established in his honor.

With the toasts and roasts over, we adjourned to the first floor conference room for conversation and refreshments while we signed the enormous "guest book" resting on an easel and admired photos of the very young, young and not-so-young Paul the athlete, educator and leader we have all come to know and love. This was, without a doubt, the most genuine, warm celebration ever.

Staff Happenings

Aelen Simkin has been chairing the Awards Subcommittee of the New Jersey Council of Holocaust Educators in developing criteria for choosing recipients of the Hela Young, Sister Rose Thering and Maud Dahme Awards.

September 11-15, 2006: Dr. Joan Rivitz co-chaired the prestigious conference of the Association of Official Human Rights Agencies (IAOHRA) held in Atlantic City, New Jersey. Attended by human rights professionals from all over the world, with one complete day devoted to disability issues, the conference was attended by more than 700 people. Dr. Paul Winkler was one of the distinguished panelists.

Dr. Rivitz, whose several hats include those of New Jersey Commissioner of Civil Rights, Chairperson of the New Jersey Human Relations Council Advisory Board and member of the Advisory Board of the Hovnanian School, delivered the keynote address at the luncheon honoring the Hovnanian family, recipients of the International Award for Humanitarian Efforts. In paying tribute to Vahak and Paris Hovnanian, Dr. Rivitz emphasized the common bond shared by descendants of survivors of the Holocaust and survivors of the Armenian genocide - the latter endured by ancestors of the Hovnanian family whose members are keenly aware that all survivors have a duty to be a voice for the victims against the deniers, with a powerful message, depriving deniers of the opportunity to allow the passage of time to dim memory.

November 13, 2006: Ruth Respler, organizer of the Annual Kristallnacht

Commemoration at the State House, once again planned and orchestrated an impressive, inspiring, memorable program. Speakers included Governor Corzine, his chief counsel, Ken Zimmerman, grandson of Holocaust survivors; Senator Leonard Lance and survivor Fred Hayman, along with his daughter and grandson. Tamara Freeman performed on a viola that survived being played during the Holocaust.

In October 2006, Dr. Vera Goodkin had a two-day book signing session at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington and has just recently completed the Teachers' Guide for her family memoir "In Sunshine and In Shadow: We Remember Them". On December 5, she held a workshop for Lawrence Township teachers on the use of teaching/learning trunks: self-contained classrooms with a variety of student and teacher materials available on loan from the Mercer County Holocaust Genocide Resource Center. She also chaired the first meeting of a committee of educators from Central and Southern New Jersey to start planning a unique fall 2007 conference on the use of memoirs as teaching tools to enhance students' listening, interviewing and writing skills.

"Do the Write Thing"

Jan. 12, 2007 The New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education co-sponsored a conference on Darfur with the New Jersey area American Jewish Committee; the New Jersey Region of the Anti-Defamation League; the Center for Culture and Communication at Bloomfield College; the Community Relations Committee of United Jewish Communities of MetroWest; Darfur Rehabilitation Project; Drew University Center for Holocaust/Genocide Study; Help Darfur Now; Jewish Federation of Central New Jersey; NAACP, Newark Branch; Newark, North Jersey Committee for Black Clergy and the New Jersey Amistad Commission. This Conference was an opportunity to look through the lens of one of the greatest tragedies of this century – the genocide in Darfur – to learn how to use the media to instruct, inspire and inform.



Remembrance is Continuing the Resistance

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Holocaust Center News

● Kean University Holocaust Genocide Resource Center

One-Year Education Program for Teachers

A year-long education program for teachers began in September 2006 and will end in May 2007. Teachers working in one of 77 school districts that are members of a consortium partnering with the Kean University Holocaust Center can receive two tuition-free graduate courses: "Teaching the Holocaust" and "Teaching Prejudice Reduction". Instructors are sent to each participating district once a week, after the end of the school day, for the convenience of the teachers. Currently participating school districts are: Berkeley Heights, Old Bridge, Red Bank, Paramus and Westfield. The Holocaust Center also runs one course on campus. The waiting list for these courses extends into the 2010 academic year. For the past three years, a tuition-free Advanced Graduate Seminar in both courses is being offered – with substantial help from Dr. Paul Winkler in obtaining materials for it.

Programs for the 2006-2007 academic year.

October 18, 2006 was reserved for taking 120 teachers on a full-day trip to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum for an orientation, tour and a presentation by Holocaust Survivor Nesse Godin.



November 27, 2006, Harry Reicher, scholar-in-residence participated in an afternoon seminar with invited professors and public school teachers. He also delivered the annual public Holocaust lecture, "The Legacy of the Holocaust: the Nuremberg Trials, Genocide, Human Rights"

December 7, 2006 featured a much-needed teacher conference in the areas of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender issues

to help educators deal with concerns of 10% of the student population. "Making Your School Safe", a free, all-day workshop, took advantage of the talents of Kevin Jennings, Executive Director of the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network – national figure in the education and civil rights communities - as presenter and facilitator. Interested educators were encouraged to contact Gerry Melnick at gmelnick@kean.edu

December 11, 2006: Gisella Dewees, daughter of a pastor opposed to Hitler and teenager in Nazi Germany, addressed middle and high school students on the topic of "My Young Life As a Resister in Nazi Germany"

March 13, 2007 featured presenters John Heffernan from the Committee on Conscience – U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum; Dr Jerry Ehrlich, Doctors Without Borders, as well as Facing History and the Darfur Rehabilitation Project – in an educators' conference on Darfur.

● Ramapo Center for Holocaust Genocide Studies

Several of the programs were run in conjunction with campus and community partners.

1. March 7, 2006: featured lecture by Dr. Leonard Grob, Professor of Philosophy at Fairleigh Dickinson University, "Philosophy As Peacemaking and Genocide: The Work of Emmanuel Levinas", co-sponsored with the Philosophy and History Clubs. Dr. Levinas, Lithuanian and naturalized French, put forward a philosophy of ethics – far from neutral.

2. March 28, 2006: the History Club co-sponsored a lecture by Professor Eric D. Weitz of the University of Minnesota, "Searching for the Origins of the Holocaust in Africa and Ottoman Turkey: Herero, Armenians and Jews". Dr. Weitz, who directs the Center for German and European Studies at his institution, spoke about how the annihilation of the Hereros in German South Africa – today Namibia - and genocide of the Armenians by the Ottoman Turks, related to the Holocaust.

Racial thinking, authoritarianism and war were all part of the developing disasters. Weitz pointed Germany's racial ideology as the source of the catastrophe that emanated from it

3. April 25 and April 27, 2006 featured programming in commemoration of Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day. The first was held in association with Temple Beth Haverim in Mahwah. For the second, a talk by noted author, Susan Zuccotti, "Haven Across the Alps: Seeking Refuge from the Holocaust in Italy", the Center combined forces with the Ramapo College Italian Club. Susan Zuccotti's presentation centered around a group of refugees from various parts of Europe that ended up in the Italian-occupied French border village of Saint Martin Vesuble just prior to Italy's surrender to the Allies in September 1943. Mr. Roman, on whose testimony the account was partly based, movingly depicted how he and his mother, along with about 50 other desperate souls, made the trek through the mountains in Italy, believing Italy would soon be liberated. Unfortunately, Germany occupied Italy while Nazi troops hunted down Jewish refugees and members of the resistance. With the aid of Roman Catholic clergy and lay people, Mr. Roman and his mother managed to elude the Nazi dragnet.

● Mercer County Holocaust Genocide Resource Center

The Center has sponsored the Anne Frank Exhibit held at the Chestnut Tree Book Store in the Harrison Street Princeton Shopping Center from April 26-June 3, 2006, with the New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education, Rider University and the Mercer County Education Association. While the exhibit was open to the public in the evenings and on the weekend, its main thrust during school hours was to schedule and conduct docent-led tours for middle and high school classes. For many, this was the culminating activity of their year's Holocaust studies.

Holocaust Center News

● Drew University Center for Holocaust/ Genocide Study

September 11, 2006 - In recognition of the importance of constant crises in the



Dr. Joyce Apsel

the Darfur region, the Center and the Ad Hoc Save Darfur Coalition sponsored a community forum, "Darfur: From Analysis to Action". Moderated by Dr. Lillie Johnson Edwards of Drew University, the forum began with Dr. Joyce Apsel of New York University, editor of the newly published "Darfur: Genocide Before Our Eyes", who spoke about the history of genocide and Darfur. After her presentation, there was a screening of a short film about Darfur produced by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. Matthew Emry, Senior Officer for Conflict, Post-Conflict and Emergency Relief for the American Jewish World Service was the other distinguished panelist. He presented a perspective of what is happening "on the ground" in Darfur and the surrounding region, along with issues in need of being addressed by the world community.

October 11, 2006 - The Drew University campus had an opportunity to hear Michael Gonzales, "Horn of Africa" Unit Chief at the State Department, clarify some of the dilemmas posed by the boundless suffering in Darfur, Somalia, Eritrea and Ethiopia, providing much-needed background information on the human tragedies in Africa and the difficulties of the international community's response.



Dr. Eva Gossman

October 16, 2006 - The Center for Holocaust/Genocide study presented Dr. Eva Gossman at its "Conversation with Witnesses", part of a series of informal dialogues-sponsored

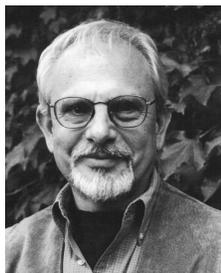
by the Center since 2000 - between the audience and individuals who have witnessed the Holocaust or another genocide first-hand. Dr. Gossman, retired professor of Philosophy, and author of "Good Beyond Evil: Ordinary People in Extraordinary Times", shared her experiences as a Jewish child in Nazi-occupied Europe. She provided insight into the selfless courage and heroic kindness of people who saved and protected her family from the ravages of the Nazis during World War II.

November 2, 2006 - At its Fourteenth Annual One-Day Conference commemorating Kristallnacht, in a program entitled "National Socialism 'Embodied': Body Politics, Sports, and the Holocaust", the Center invited distinguished speakers to explore the bizarre Nazi ideology of hatred by explaining how anti-Semitism could mobilize an entire nation to annihilate a small, but vibrant minority. They further discussed a less recognized, but equally crucial issue to understanding what happened in Germany; the depiction of a nation as a biological body infected by a virus threatening the "health of the nation". This virus needed to be purged, allowing a pure, non-disabled, muscular, "Aryan" body politic to thrive.



Dr. Uli Linke

of Race" on which she based her talk, "Remembering the Holocaust: Body Aesthetics, Race and Spectacle". In a follow-up session, she discussed the "Final Solution" as a means of "degrading the Jewish Body Politic" and destroying the Jewish people.



Dr. Lewis Ehrenberg

Dr. Lewis Ehrenberg, Professor of History at Loyola University, author of the "Greatest Fight of Our Generation: Joe Lewis and Max

Schmelling in the International Arena", showed how and why this fight became a powerful propaganda tool for the Nazis since it supported their obsession with the Aryan male body, that of a warrior, in contrast with the "weak and poisonous" Jewish body. However, the outcome achieved the opposite result as Joe Lewis, the winner, became an African-American and Jewish hero who embodied all the characteristics that Max Schmelling, the loser, lacked. Dr. Ann Saltzman, co-director of the Center, presented "The Female Body as 'Incubator' for the Creation of a Master Race". The program also included the discussion of "Lebensborn" and excerpts from the film "In Pure Blood".

Dr. Robert Weisbuch, President of Drew University addressed the Conference on the importance of Holocaust Education.



Dr. Stuart Liebman

Dr. Stuart Liebman, Professor of Film Studies at CUNY, author of a book on Claude Lanzman, producer/director of the epic film "Shoah", explored the ways in which Nazis used propaganda films to drive home their biologically driven ideology - by comparing Leni Riefenstahl's idealized male body in the "Olympiad" and the bodies of Jews in "The Eternal Jew".



Ann Weiss

In the final session of the Conference, "Re-Embodying Jewish Lives Lost During the Holocaust", Ann Weiss, second generation survivor and author of "The Lost Album: Eyes from the Ashes of Auschwitz-Birkenau". As a dedicated photojournalist, Ann Weiss explored the identity of the people in confiscated family photographs she found in a back room at the Auschwitz Museum. Naming them - to "re-embody" them, she proclaimed a spiritual victory over the National Socialist attempt to destroy Jewish bodies, as well as the Jewish Body Politic.

Holocaust Center News

● Holocaust Education Center of the Delaware Valley

June 2006: Lilo Altenberg, Auschwitz survivor, graduated from Timber Creek High School in Erial, New Jersey. Throughout the school year, she had shared her experiences, as well as her passion for eliminating hatred, with small groups of students. They, in turn, wrote in the yearbook: "Lilo has taught the Timber Creek Community to smile, persevere and live life to the fullest. Indeed, Lilo is an inspiration to all, and every student and staff member who has met Lilo is truly blessed to have known her.

A performance of "Dear Esther" afforded a unique opportunity for bringing 25 juniors from Holy Cross High School in Delran together with members of Café Europa, a social organization for Holocaust survivors sponsored by the Jewish Family Services. The students were then invited to have lunch with the survivors, an event that was both educationally and emotionally gratifying for both parties.

The Center's contact with the district began in the 2005-2006 academic year, with ten of their teachers joining a group of teachers being taken to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. Dr. Paul Winkler and the principal and his staff decided to plan a school-wide day of Holocaust studies, with "Dear Esther" as part of their preparations, followed by a simultaneous visit by nine survivors – Mathilde and Charles Middleberg, Ryfka and Jacob Finkelstein, Leah Kalina, Joel Fabian, Lisel Van Dyke, Eva Weiner and Emil Paul, accompanied by facilitators Bernice Glazier, Manny Pak and Carol Orwitz - for a memorable learning experience.

The community-wide Kristallnacht observance involved the screening of "Upside Memory", an intimate account of Miles and Chris Lerman – founder/chairman emeritus of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum and prominent lecturer on the Holocaust, respectively. Their daughter, Jeannette Lerman-Neubauer



Photo from left to right: Terri Dariano, Educational Director, Battleship, New Jersey; Bill Bielec, liberator of Nordhausen; Helen Kirschbaum, Educational Program Director, GHMEC; Arthur Seltzer, liberator of Dachau and Al Yesser, liberator of Buchenwald.

joined in the post-film discussion. November 30, 2006 was the culmination of the Center's cooperation with the Anti-Defamation League to sponsor a teachers' workshop assisting teachers in the use of the new multi-media Holocaust curriculum, "Echoes and Reflections", developed in collaboration with the Shoah Visual History Foundation and Yad Vashem. This curriculum offers teachers ten lessons with connections to contemporary issues of diversity, prejudice, bigotry and modern day genocide. Participating teachers were able to take home a grant-sponsored free curriculum and guide back to their schools.

December 3, 2006 was the date of the annual teacher and survivor trip to the Holocaust Museum in Washington. The latter gave generously of their time and energy acting as tour guides, helping teachers return to their classroom motivated and inspired to teach the lessons of the Holocaust.

December 6, 2006 marked the culmination of a whole year's partnership with the Battleship New Jersey to develop a long distance learning experience, with video-conferencing equipment available on the Battleship which enabled Arthur Seltzer, one of the liberators of Dachau; Al Yasser liberator of Buchenwald and Bill Bielec, liberator of Nordhausen, to share eyewitness accounts with students from Camden County Technical High School, Passaic Valley High School, Cumberland Regional High School, Atlantic City High

School, Abesegami High School and Neeta School in Medford Lakes. Dr. Paul Winkler was present at the Neeta School to moderate the program. With the daily loss of around 1200 World War II veterans, this program offered a unique opportunity for the liberators to share stories with and field questions from students from all the participating schools after the presentation.

● Bildner Holocaust Resource Center at Rutgers University

The Holocaust Center, an integral part of the Allen and Joan Bildner Center for Jewish Studies at Rutgers University, is in the midst of celebrating its 10th anniversary, highlighting its "Legacy of Learning". Among other activities, the Holocaust Resource Center sponsors educational programs for teachers and serves as a consultant to the community. The Center also sponsors the Master Teachers' Institute for middle school teachers now in its second year and the New Jersey Leaders Think Tank.

On January 29, 2007, the Bildner Center presented the 40-minute documentary film "The Diary of Immaculee", a memoir of a woman's experiences during the Rwandan genocide, featuring a discussion with filmmakers after the screening. This program was cosponsored by Rutgers Hillel.

On February 7, 2007, the Center held symposium, entitled The Holocaust, Genocide, and Human Rights, featured a panel consisting of Manus Midlarsky, Professor of International Peace and Conflict Resolution at Rutgers University, Eric Weitz, Professor of History/German and European Studies at the University of Minnesota and Helen Fein, Executive Director for the Study of Genocide at John Jay College of Criminal Justice of the City University of New York.

Wednesday, February 7, 2007, at 7:00 P.M., the Center featured a symposium on the Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights" at Traves Hall.

Holocaust Center News



Dina Cohen (left), Dr. Paul B. Winkler and Barbara Wind (right) during the "Memory to History" presentation

● Metro West

In 2006, MetroWest re-mounted the exhibit "From Memory to History: Faces and Voices of the Holocaust" it developed and created in 2005. The rerun turned out to be even more successful than the original exhibit – due to additional exhibits, as well as a large collection of pre-Holocaust artifacts on loan from the Mosberg family.

September 7 – November 22, 2006 – many colleges and universities, public, private and religious schools, as well as thousands of members of the general public visited this enhanced museum-quality exhibit. MetroWest-trained docents, conducted informative tours with survivors, liberators and POWs providing eyewitness testimonies. Copious positive feedback from students and teachers not only demonstrated the amount of objective learning, but also showed the profound emotional effect this experience had on the students' resolve not to become bystanders.

Some additional events sponsored by the Holocaust Council in conjunction with the exhibit included the book launch of the third edition of the Holocaust Digest, with fascinating talks by its editor, Esther Goldberg, and Sir Martin Gilbert, eminent cartographer, a fascinating experience for educators, as well as the general community. The Conference, "Subverting Science: How the Nazis Abused Science" featured guest speakers Dr. Patricia Heberer of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and Dr. Robert Prezant, Dean of Mathematics and Science at Montclair State University. An intergenerational project using Lego blocks to build a scale model of the Warsaw Ghetto,

as well as a film series, further illuminated aspects of exhibit themes. USHMM scholars Steven Mize and Arthur Berger concluded the events by speaking about James Grover Macdonald, American diplomat and Righteous Rescuer, whose diaries have just recently been discovered.

December 10, 2006 – MetroWest showed the film "The Hidden Child" – followed by a discussion with Maud Dahme, survivor and subject of the film.

● Council of Holocaust Educators Meet

On Wednesday, September 13, 2006, a capacity audience saw the premiere of a remarkable film, "Soulsaving: Common Threads of Kindness". The 40-minute film features often anonymous, momentary acts of kindness responsible for saving the lives of survivors. These ordinary individuals who "did the right thing" made a profound difference in the lives of the victims they saved.

Eight of the survivors, along with film director Isaac Dostis, attended the premiere. They answered even identical questions, such as their faith in God, in their own individual way – based on unique personal experiences and coping mechanisms.

The acts of kindness depicted in the film had a profound influence on the survivors' faith in human nature. It will be used in schools as part of the Center's traveling exhibit under the title "Survival of the Human Spirit Over Adversity".

● Brookdale Center for Holocaust Center

December 7-8, 2006, Brookdale's Center for Holocaust Studies hosted the Fourth Annual Conference of Holocaust Educators in cooperation with the New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education – with about 145 participants.

Orit Margaliot of the International School for Holocaust Studies at Yad Vashem, Israel, presented the introductory session to "Echoes and Reflections: A Multimedia

Curriculum", as well as another session on the "Roots of Antisemitism".

Dale Daniels, Director of the Center for Holocaust Studies at Brookdale and Colleen Tambuscio, President of the Council of Holocaust Educators presided over the conference and welcomed participants to a day of workshops exploring "Historical Connections" and "Pedagogical Connections". Dr. Paul Winkler, Executive Director of the New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education, offered remarks and introduced special guests Hank Fellows, composer of "Six Million" and Ashton Byram who performed the piece for an appreciative audience.

Morning keynote speakers Jacqueline Murekatete, Rwandan survivor, and David Gewirtzman, Holocaust survivor, spoke movingly about their experiences as survivors, the work to be done and their hopes for the future. The keynotes were followed by a panel of survivors: Ruth Rosenfeld, Cass Lewart and Liesel Spencer - moderated by Seymour Siegler of BCC.- shared their own experiences. Afternoon keynote speaker Peter J. Fredlake, Coordinator of the Teacher Fellowship Program in the Education Division of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, discussed making pedagogical connections when teaching the Holocaust and genocide.

Individual morning workshop presenters included Mary Johnson and Peter Nelson of Facing History and Ourselves on the subject of "Choices: Historical Choices as Models for Today"; Jane Denny, the Center of Holocaust Studies at BCC on "Eugenics and the Foundation of Nazi Racial Ideology" and Professor Jeffrey Shandler, Rutgers University, on "Living Room Witnesses: The Holocaust and American Television". Afternoon presenters included Karen Levine, Lead Teacher, Central Middle School, Parsippany, New Jersey, on "Moments in Time: Using Survivor Testimony in the Classroom"; Vernoy Paolini, Lounsbury Hollow Middle School, Vernon, New Jersey and Ela Weisburger, Holocaust survivor, on "Survivor Testimony and Literature in the Elementary and Middle School"; Jill Cerquiera, Holmdel High School, Holmdel, New Jersey, on "Triumph of Evil: The Rwandan Genocide and the Failure of the International Community"; Barbara Wind, the Holocaust Center of MetroWest, on
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Holocaust Center News

● College of St. Elizabeth Holocaust Education Resource Center

May 29, 2006 saw the return of twenty Women's College students from this year's March of Remembrance. The group included international students from Turkey, Kenya, Colombia, Haiti, Mexico, Nepal and Zimbabwe. In addition to survivor Pinchas Gutter, the students were accompanied by Dr. Harriet Sepinwall, Co-Director of the Holocaust Education Resource Center and Dr. Margaret Roman, Director of the Honors Program at the College.

October 30 – November 10, 2006 : the annual Prelude and Week of Holocaust Remembrance featured thirty-three separate day and evening programs on racism, discrimination and prejudice reduction led by Holocaust survivors and the College's faculty members – in addition to a Kristallnacht commemoration.

Survivor testimonies came from Benjamin Abeles rescued in Prague by Nicholas Winton; Fanya Gottesfeld Heller, author of "Love in a World of Sorrow"; Pinchas Gutter – who accompanied students on a trip to Poland; and George Green who witnessed Kristallnacht on November 10, 1938, with four hundred and fifty Paterson Diocesan and Newark Archdiocesan middle and high school students, along with public school students from Montville Township High School and Parsippany Central Middle school. In addition, the public also had an opportunity to watch the U.S. premiere of "The Void" and ask Mr. Gutter questions.

Rev. John Morley of Seton Hall University spoke on Catholic/Jewish relations since Vatican II. and Nostra Aetate – its progress and hopes for the future.

U.S. Chief of Special Projects,



Kimberly Mann for the Department of Public Information did a presentation entitled "The Holocaust and the United Nations Outreach Program". She also spoke about a recent U.N. decision to establish an International Day of Holocaust Remembrance on January 29 – commemorated for the first time in 2006.

CSE Faculty News



Holocaust Survivor Pinchas Gutter smiles at Dr. David Machlis, Director of the March of the Living at CSE

April 2006 - Dr. Harriet Sepinwall conducted a workshop entitled "Lest We Forget Goals, Strategies and Resources for Teaching About the Holocaust in Catholic Schools" with Sr. Joseph Spring at the National Catholic Educational Association Convention in Atlanta.

December 12, 2006 – Teacher's Workshop, "Echoes and Reflections", focused in on contemporary issues of diversity, prejudice, bigotry and genocide. Participants could earn three professional development credits by attending this full-day workshop. They could also receive a multi-media curriculum guide with a DVD.

CSE Student News

Julie Salthouse, number one 2006 graduate, participated in the March of Remembrance and Hope. She then spoke at the MetroWest Memorial Program honoring Sister Rose. Subsequently, as recipient of the Sister Rose Thering Scholarship from the Endowment at Seton Hall, she is now attending the Seton Hall Master's Program in Catholic-Jewish Relations.

● Seton Hall University

The Department of Jewish-Christian Studies hosted the following events last spring, with assistance from the New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education:

1. March 8, 2006: "Poles and Jews Under the Nazi Occupation", a Teachers' Study Day

2. May 10, 2006 : "James Parks, Jewish Suffering and the Holocaust", a lecture by Dr. Haim Chertok of Beer Sheva University in Israel. Dr. Chertok is the author of a biography, "He Also Spoke As A Jew: The Life of the Reverend James Parks".

3. Upcoming: March 21, 2007: hosting study day on "Chinese and the Jews Under Japanese Occupation"

● Stockton College Resource Center

Significant publications: Dr. Jan Colijn, Dean of Instruction at the College, just recently published a poignant, poetic and most enlightening book entitled "Ruin's Wheel: a Father on War, a Son on Genocide" co-authored posthumously by his father, Izaak Colijn. In Part I, "The Weight", Dr. Colijn discusses his formative years and the values they imparted for a lifetime of integrity and compassion. Part II presents Izaak's journal, untouched, to maintain the intent of all his thoughts their exact expression, while Jan's Part III explores what, if anything, we have learned from the Holocaust. The book embodies the best in scholarly and humane thought – a privilege to read.

Arnold Weitzenhof wrote "This I Remember: A Polish Youth Survives the Shoah" with Dr. Maryann McLoughlin who had made a presentation on it at the November 2006 NJEA Conference in Atlantic City.

"Beyond Camps and Forced Labor: Imperial War Museum Conference Proceedings" contain Gail Rosenthal and Dr. Maryann McLoughlin's paper entitled "Life After the Holocaust: Meeting the Needs of Holocaust Survivors and Their Families".

Formal Farewell to Sister Rose



Published within days of her passing, the tribute to Sister Rose appearing in the last issue of "Remember" sadly became "In Memoriam". Fittingly, we close the book on the physical life – but never the remarkable words and deeds – of our beloved friend and great humanitarian by giving a brief account of a commemorative service co-sponsored by The Sister Rose Thering Endowment of Seton Hall University and Monsignor Robert Sheeran. Held at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark on September 13, 2006, this commemoration was a way of remembering a dear friend, assuring that her legacy will live on and bring together friends and family to share thoughts and reminiscences.

Sister Rose spent the last six months of her life in her beloved Mother House at the Siena Center in Racine, Wisconsin. Her passing on May 6, 2006 left everyone with deep sadness, but also with a strengthened conviction that her work promoting better

relations between Christians and Jews must continue.

Archbishop Emeritus Peter L. Gerety of the Archdiocese of Newark welcomed the guests and dignitaries. Rabbis Irving and Blu Greenberg, Rose's longtime friends and colleagues, as well as Monsignor Robert Sheeran, a devoted supporter of Rose's work, were the keynote speakers. The audience of more than 500 heard heartfelt comments from Governor Jon Corzine, Sister Sharon Simon, President of her Dominican Order in Racine, Sister Joan Cook, representing the National Christian Leadership Conference for Israel, Luna Kaufman, Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the Endowment, Dr. David Bossman, Executive Director of the Endowment, Monsignor John Gilchrist of the Archdiocese of Newark, Dr. Paul Winkler, Executive Director of the New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education, Dr. Eugene Fisher, Secretariat of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, as well as representatives of the Anti-Defamation League and the Israeli Consulate in New York. The Cathedral Choir sang a number of selections, while Cantor Daniel Neiden chanted

the Mourner's Prayer (the Kaddish) after a letter from Theodore Bikel had been read.

The administration of the Cathedral, particularly Monsignor Richard Gronki and his staff, paid caring attention to every detail contributing to the dignity of the service. The magnificence of the Cathedral and the presence of such a diverse group of admirers of Sister Rose, accentuated the enduring presence of her spirit and her passion.

Brookdale *(continued from p.6)*

"From Memory to History: A Community Exhibition of Holocaust Survivors" and Colleen Tambuscio, New Milford High School, and William Fernekes, Paul Gorski, Dan Butler and Derek Khoudja, all from Hunterdon Central Regional High School, Flemington, New Jersey, on "Instructional Models for Holocaust Study Abroad Program".

Participants left the conference inspired and informed by new ideas and a generous collection of educational materials for classroom use and for sharing with colleagues.



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