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* NEW BOARD MEMBER
** DECEASED

**Jewish Historical Society of Greater Hartford
and Emanuel Synagogue
are co-sponsoring a**

**Guided Tour of
Touro Synagogue
Newport, Rhode Island
and optional Walking Tour of Jewish Newport
Sunday, April 30th, 2017**



COST: \$40*/PP MEMBERS OF EITHER ORGANIZATION

\$45/PP NON-MEMBERS

Bus leaves from JHSGH office promptly at 9:00 AM (please arrive by 8:45 AM) and returns approximately 6:00 PM.

For further information, call 860-727-6170

Register online or download mail-in form at www.jhsgh.org

*THIS COST IS FOR TRANSPORTATION, MUSEUM & TOUR FEES. DOES NOT INCLUDE LUNCH.

President's Message

Dear JHS Board, Members and Our Community,

This past fall we had a successful gala organized by co-chairs Sandy Rulnick and Abbey Kreinick, as well as Estelle Kafer and her hard working staff. I offer special thanks to all of them. We were fortunate to have attendance by so many supportive members of our community. I want to thank everyone who attended and made generous donations and to those who donated their time, services, and products that helped make the event a success.

Our focus in coming months and years will be how to increase awareness of our mission and our resources and to find engaging projects and programs which will reach out to many different groups of varying ages, genders and interests while focused on the history of our community. We have had two "Brainstorming Sessions" which have generated many great ideas, and I look forward to continuing our discussions. We want future generations to know the efforts, challenges, and successes those in our community experienced in order to create, grow and sustain some of our most important synagogues, institutions, and family businesses. We want them to be recognized and remembered, standing as wonderful examples of what a community can accomplish when it works together. But we need your help to share these stories, photographs, and records so they may be preserved and honored for and by future generations.

In addition, we are asking for your assistance in other important ways:

- Share your updated e-mail and contact information with us to learn firsthand about new programs and events.
- Forward this newsletter (available on our website at www.jhsg.org/newsletter.html) to family or friends who might be interested in an upcoming program.
- Let us know if you are part of an organization that would make a compatible partner for JHSGH and who to contact. We have successfully partnered with many area synagogues and history organizations in the past and would like to continue to expand our network.
- Let us know of programs that are of interest to you. We welcome your ideas!
- Let us know if you would like to volunteer your time or become a member.

Wishing you a pleasant spring, safe travels home to our snowbirds, and a special Passover holiday with your family and friends.

Gary R. Schwartz

President

S P R I N G 2 0 1 7 C A L E N D A R

Tuesday, March 7, 2017-2:00p.m.

Author program "*We Were the Lucky Ones*" by Georgia Hunter, co-sponsored with Avon Library Avon Public Library, 281 Country Club Rd, Avon

Tuesday, March 7, 2017-7:00p.m.

JHSGH Board Meeting
Community Services Building

Tuesday, March 21, 2017-1:00p.m.

Hartford Jewish Film Festival "*The Man Behind the Clown*" co-sponsored with JHS.
The Emanuel Synagogue, 160 Mohegan Dr., WH

Tuesday, March 28, 2017-6:00 pm

Pastrami on Rye: Deli Dinner and talk with author Ted Merwin
Community Services Building

Sunday, April 2, 2017-6:00p.m.

"*Jews of Spain*" lecture by Andrée Aelion Brooks and kosher Spanish dinner, co-sponsored by The Emanuel Synagogue.
The Emanuel Synagogue, 160 Mohegan Dr., WH

Thursday, April 20, 2017-7:00p.m.

Book talk: "*The Bridge Ladies*" by Betsy Lerner, co-sponsored with The Emanuel Synagogue.
The Emanuel Synagogue, 160 Mohegan Dr., WH

Tuesday, April 25, 2017-7:00p.m.

JHSGH Board Meeting
Community Services Building

Sunday, April 30, 2017-9:00a.m.-6:00p.m.

Bus Tour to Touro Synagogue, Newport, Rhode Island. Bus leaves from Community Services Building at 9:00a.m. and returns approx.. 6:00p.m.

Tuesday, May 2, 2017-1:00p.m.

Film: "*Bal Ej: The Hidden Jews of Ethiopia*" by Israeli filmmaker Irene Orleansky. Part of Israel Festival Week.
Mandell JCC, 335 Bloomfield Ave. WH

Sunday, May 21, 2017-9:30a.m. and 1:30p.m.

"*Back to the Old Neighborhoods*" Jewish Hartford Bus Tour.
Tours leave from Community Services Building.

Monday, May 22, 2017-7:00p.m.

JHSGH Board Meeting
Community Services Building

Monday, June 12, 2017-7:00 p.m.

JHSGH Annual Meeting: From Hoops to Home Runs: Jews that Influenced American Sports.
Mandell JCC, 335 Bloomfield Ave. WH

Find us on



www.facebook.com/jhsght/



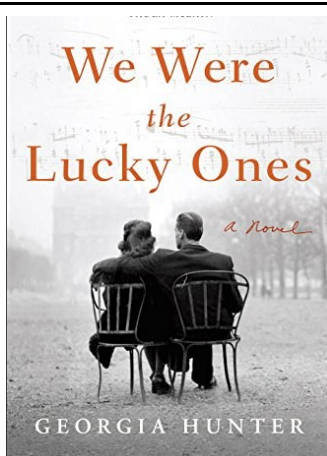
twitter.com/jhshartford or
[@jhshartford](https://twitter.com/jhshartford)



Instagram

www.instagram.com/jhshartford/

The Society needs your help!
How? It's easy! Like, share, and comment on our social media posts. The more people interact with our pages, the more people will see our history!



We Were The Lucky Ones

**Book Talk with author
Georgia Hunter**

**Avon Free Public Library
281 Country Club Road
Avon**

**Tuesday, March 7, 2017
2:00 pm**

*Co-sponsored by JHSGH and
the Avon Public Library*

We Were the Lucky Ones comes from the experiences of Georgia Hunter's grandfather — Addy in the book — and his family. In high school, Hunter interviewed her grandmother for a research project, and came away with a remarkable story that lives within her own family. This story never strayed from her mind, and in 2008 she began searching for the rest, traveling to Poland, France, and beyond. Seven years later her novel was complete. This is the story of a Jewish family in Radom ripped away from each other at the start of the war, and their struggle to survive and make it back to one another. Of the 30,000 Jews who lived in Poland at the start of World War II, fewer than 300 survived.

Books will be for sale at this event. For more information, call the Avon Free Public Library at 860-673-9712 or visit their website, www.avonctlibrary.info.



The Bridge Ladies

**Book Talk with author
Betsy Lerner**

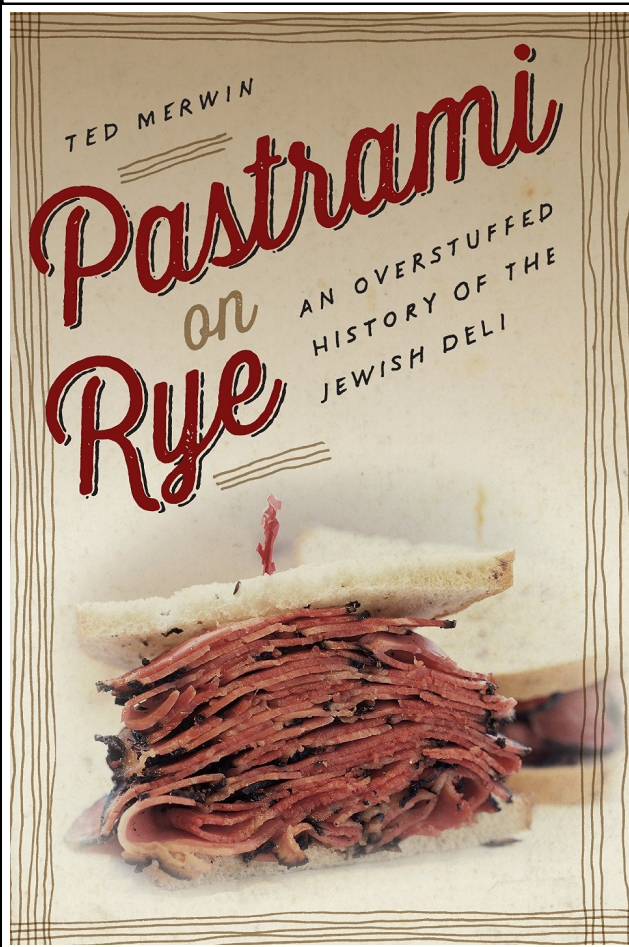
**Emanuel Synagogue
160 Mohegan Drive
West Hartford**

**Thursday, April 20, 2017
7:00 pm**

*Co-sponsored by JHSGH and
the Emanuel Synagogue Adult
Education Committee.*

Join us as we welcome author Betsy Lerner to speak about her memoir, *The Bridge Ladies*. A fifty-year-old bridge game, and the secrets it held, provides an unexpected way to cross the generational divide between the author and her mother. Betsy Lerner takes us on an intimate and powerfully personal literary journey where we learn a little about bridge and a lot about life. When her mother needs help after surgery, it falls to Betsy to take care of her. She expected a week of tense civility; what she got instead were the Bridge Ladies. Impressed with their loyalty, she realized her generation was lacking. Facebook was great, but it wouldn't deliver a pot roast! Betsy becomes a regular fixture at her mother's Monday Bridge Club, and before long she comes under the spell of the game. But it is through her friendships with the ladies that she is finally able face years of misunderstandings and family tragedy.

For more information on any of our programs, please contact Lynn Newman at 860-727-6170 or newman@jewishhartford.org.



Co-sponsored by JHSGH and the Crown Market

**Join us for a deli dinner and a
presentation by Ted Merwin, author
of *Pastrami on Rye: An Overstuffed
History of the Jewish Deli***



Tuesday, March 28, 2017, 6:00 - 8:00 PM

Community Services Building, 333 Bloomfield Ave, West Hartford

For much of the twentieth century, the New York Jewish deli was an iconic institution in both Jewish and American life. As a social space it rivaled—and in some ways surpassed—the synagogue as the primary gathering place for the Jewish community. In popular culture it has been the setting for classics like *When Harry Met Sally*. And today, after a long period languishing in the trenches of the hopelessly old-fashioned, it is experiencing a nostalgic resurgence. Come hear from the author of the first full length history on the topic and enjoy some delicious food from Crown.

Fill out and return this form with your check made out to JHSGH, 333 Bloomfield Ave., West Hartford, CT 06117. You may also register online at: www.jhsg.org. Please register by **March 20th**.

Name(s): _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Please select your sandwich choice:

Cost: \$12.00 Per Person

☐ Corned Beef ☐ Turkey ☐ Tuna ☐ Pastrami ☐ Vegetarian

Total # People Attending _____

Total = \$ _____

JHSGH Celebrates 45 Years!

On Sunday October 30, 2016, the Society celebrated its 45th anniversary with a very special evening, "From Mobster to Mensch". Close to two hundred people turned out to hear Louis Ferrante, best-selling author and convert to Judaism, tell his remarkable and inspiring story. Attendees watched a brief film about the Society's important role in preserving Hartford's Jewish history throughout the past four decades, and enjoyed a delicious strolling buffet dinner. The Give for Good Auction was a huge success thanks to the many generous supporters and friends who participated. The event would not have been possible if it weren't for the hard work of co-chairs, Sandra Rulnick and Abbey Kreinik. We thank our gala committee, Society staff and Board of Directors for their invaluable assistance. Additional Gala photos can be viewed at <http://bit.ly/45thGala>.



Rebecca Selig, Lou Ferrante, Scott Selig, Jeff Azia, David Harris



Guests enjoying the program



Brad Drazen was the best auctioneer!



Lou Ferrante and Rabbi Arthur Rulnick

Thank you to our supporters

Gail and Jeffrey Adler
Helga Allweiss
Becky and Jeffrey Azia
Elizabeth Weber and Morris Banks
Gloria Bein
Susan and Bruce Bergman
Lois and Alan Berkowitz
Phyllis and Robert Berman
Roberta and Harry Berry
Ann and David Brandwein
Trudy and Louis Brown
Eleanor Caplan
Jean and Dr. Leon Chameides
Adam Cohen
Libbian and Jerry Cohen
Naomi and Michael Cohen
Fay and Ernie deHaas
Sharon and Bob Efron
Joan and Daniel Fine
Michael Fishman
Sharon Kowal and Martin Freilich

Frances and Edward Friedman
Linda and Jerry Friedman
Lynn Kaplan and Barry Goldberg
Deborah and Lance Goldberg
Susan and Paul Goldberg
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Patti and Howard Weiner
Francene and Jeremy Weingast
Gail and Raymond Weinstein
Dr. Stacy Nerenstone and Mort Weinstein
Judith and Joel Weisman
Sandy Zieky and Michael Wilder

Thank You to Our Mensches

*Beth Schiro and Stephen Bayer
Trudy and Louis Brown
Sandra and Arnold Chase
The Harry E. Goldfarb Family Foundation
The Harris, Adelberg & Strauss Insurance Agency
Debbie and Steve Kleinman
Gerald A. Roisman, Esquire
Anja and Eugene Rosenberg and Family
Muriel Kesten*

Back to the Old Neighborhoods

BUS TOUR

Sunday, May 21, 2016
at 9:30 am and 1:30 p.m.



Travel Through
200 Years Of
Jewish History
In Hartford

Travel through 200 years of Hartford's Jewish history! Our professional guide will share information about the earliest Jewish settlers and new immigrants who came to the area and made it a thriving and growing center of Jewish life. The tour includes stops at the sites of three former synagogues: Congregation Beth Israel, Congregation Agudas Achim, and The Emanuel Synagogue.

To register, or for more information, visit our website: www.jhsggh.org. Please fill out both of the required forms (the PayPal form and the registration form), or call 860 727-6170.

SAVE THE DATE

JHS Annual Meeting

Monday, June 12, 2017
7:00 PM



From Hoops to Home Runs: Jews that Influenced American Sports

A presentation by Bennet Muraskin

also

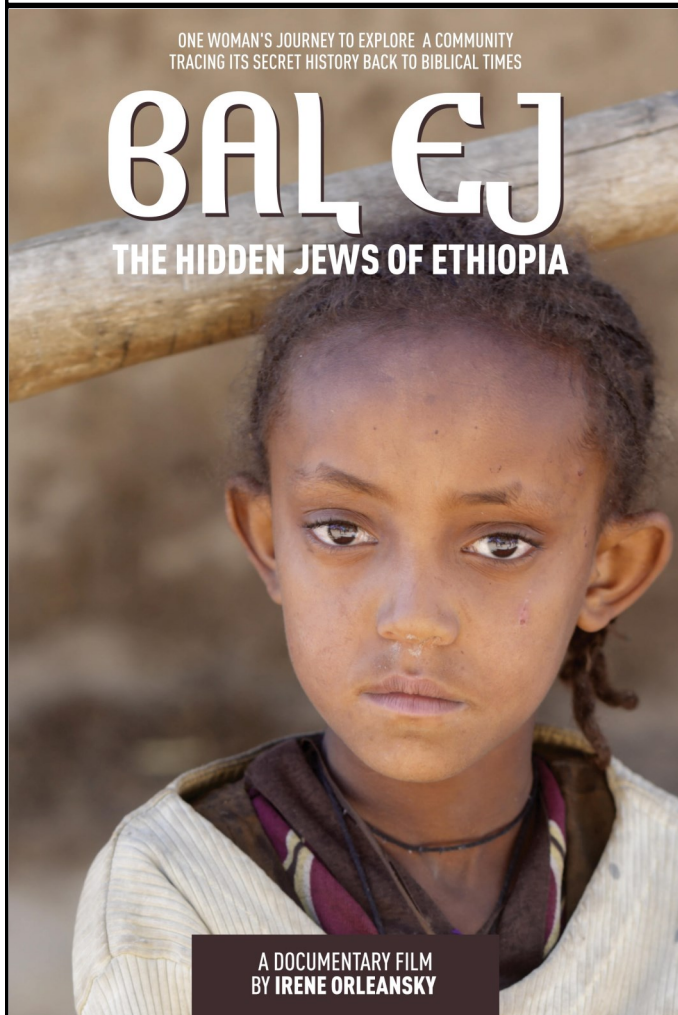
A look back at Hartford's Jewish Athletes

Mandell Jewish Community Center

ONE WOMAN'S JOURNEY TO EXPLORE A COMMUNITY
TRACING ITS SECRET HISTORY BACK TO BIBLICAL TIMES

BAL EJ

THE HIDDEN JEWS OF ETHIOPIA



A DOCUMENTARY FILM
BY IRENE ORLEANSKY

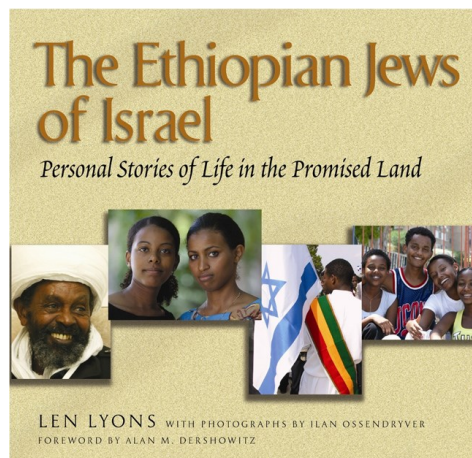
For Israel Festival Week
JHSGH sponsors



Bal Ej: The Hidden Jews of Ethiopia A film by Israeli filmmaker Irene Orleansky

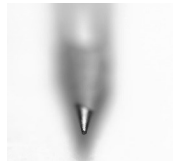
Tuesday, May 2, 2017, 1:00 PM
Mandell JCC, West Hartford

Introduction and historical overview provided by Len Lyons,
author of the book *The Ethiopian Jews of Israel*.



This program is open to everyone and is free of charge.

From the Director



Dear Friends,

It was wonderful to see many of you at our fabulous 45th Anniversary Gala last October. I appreciate your generosity and support of this important and successful fundraiser.

When our new publication *Jewish Community of Hartford* by Arcadia Press came out last September, I was pleased to receive a number of invitations from synagogues and various institutions to speak about the volume. People have enjoyed looking at the over 200 historical photos, which have triggered pleasant memories and favorite stories. Books are available on our website or in the office.

As you read through these pages, you will notice the numerous programs and events we are sponsoring and co-sponsoring this spring. We also have been busy with two exciting oral history projects. The "Family History on the Road" project is working with synagogue and day school educators to train 6th and 7th grade students how to conduct an oral history interview with a family member. We are providing workshops, a detailed handbook, and ongoing support to guide teachers, parents, and students through the process. The second is the Community Leadership Oral History Project, in which two professional consultants are initially conducting interviews of Greater Hartford's religious leadership. They will follow with interviews of professional and lay leadership. Each project will bring valuable community connections and recognition, and raise awareness about the Society and the important role we play in remembering the past, preserving the present, and building for the future.

We are very grateful to the Jewish Community Foundation and the Jeffrey Hoffman Family fund for making these vital projects possible.

Wishing everyone a Happy Purim and a memorable Pesach enjoyed with family and friends.

Hope to see you very soon!

Best Regards,

Estelle

New Exhibit in JHS office "The People of Israel" by Israeli photographer, Yonit Schiller



From the Archivist

Dear Friends,

We have had some exciting new additions to our collection the past few months. Brooksie Koopman sent us records from the Fifteen Club of Congregation Beth Israel, which included minutes of meetings, organizational history, and programs from luncheons hosted by the organization. These materials give fascinating insight into an organization from our past and filled in some of the gaps of our collection. Hebrew Health Care donated several ledgers recording donations to the Hebrew Home (all written out by hand!) as well as photo albums. Charlotte Berman brought in materials about "The Magen David Show" a Jewish radio program in which she participated. Barbara Snyder gave us a large photo of the Glazier family at the 50th Anniversary party of Lillian & Sol Hurwitz, and Barbara Nair donated a variety of papers relating to local organizations.

On January 26th, the Society acted as a host site for a crowdsourcing effort in Connecticut to contribute to the *History Unfolded* project of the U. S. Holocaust Museum, which aims to create a database of American newspaper coverage of the Holocaust. About thirty specific events have been selected to guide researchers' searching. Four volunteers came to our office and identified over 25 articles on three different events using newspapers in our collection, and I am in the process of uploading this information to the national database. To learn more about this project, visit: <https://newspapers.ushmm.org/>

You may have noticed that our social media accounts have become a little more active lately. We are working to use these sites to share some of our fabulous content, and we need your help. The more our posts get clicked on, liked, and shared, the more people see them! If you have a Facebook (www.facebook.com/jhsght/), Twitter (twitter.com/jhshartford or [@jhshartford](https://twitter.com/@jhshartford)), or Instagram (www.instagram.com/jhshartford/) account, make sure to follow us. Stay tuned for upcoming contests with fun prizes!

Jeanne

JHSGH Sponsors

**"Exploring our
Eastern
European Roots:
Life Before the
Darkness"**

**A Trip to Poland,
Prague, & Budapest
with Professor Sam
Kassow**

July 15 - July 27, 2018

**More information to
follow**

Thoughtful Contributions

Contributions to the Jewish Historical Society are a thoughtful way of honoring or memorializing an individual, or commemorating an event, and at the same time supporting the Society. All contributions of \$18.00 or more will be listed.

In memory of:

Joe Brandes, father of Susan Margolis

Bea and Gordon Brodie
Michael and Madeline Turk

Charlie Elias

Susan and Michael Peck

Beatrice Schneider Greenberg

Hollis Schneider

Sheldon Karasik

Susan and Allan Viner

David Nemirow

David and Merle Harris

Harold L. Rothstein

Marilyn F. Rothstein Family

Joan Sherrow Stein

Susan and Allan Viner

In honor of:

JHSGH's 45th anniversary, with best wishes for continuing success in all endeavors.

Helga Allweiss

Estelle Kafer, with appreciation from Margot and Joseph Brandes on an enjoyable program at Hoffman-Summerwood.

Cheryl Brandes Pine

A small recognition for Estelle's great work in our community!

David Jacobs

Marsha Lotstein

Esther B. Drezner

Lil Marlow's 97th birthday

Irma Menschell

"Special birthday" of Uncle Leo Novarr

Marshall and Sandra Rulnick
Jay and Joan Hershman

Gary Schwartz, President

Nancy Lee Schwartz

Jennifer Sharp

Rebecca Goldman

Ruth Solomkin

Harvey Hoberman

Gala contribution in appreciation of Sandy Rulnick and Abbey Kreinik.

Lois Koteen

Gala contribution in honor of my son Gary Schwartz, my daughter in law Lisa Schwartz and my grandson Jacob Benjamin Schwartz.

Nancy Lee Schwartz

With best wishes for:

Continued good health to Elaine Kaufmann.

Beatrice Israel

A quick recovery to David Harris.

Marshall and Sandy Rulnick

General Contributions:

Drs. Leland and Paula Bradbard
Steven and Leslie Neiditz
Ronald Schlossberg

We are looking for volunteers who can help with filing our archival material. If you are interested, please contact Jeanne for more information.

Please visit our website at www.jhsggh.org
Society Hours Monday - Thursday, 9:30am - 4:30pm
(860) 727-6171

JOIN THE PRESERVATION OR HERITAGE SOCIETIES

The Preservation Society is composed of members who have chosen to give at the \$1,000 level of membership. The Heritage Society consists of members who have chosen to give at the \$1,800 level of membership. Both groups provide crucial support for all of the Society's activities. These donations, above and beyond the normal dues categories, enable us to remain financially stable, while at the same time providing the level of service and programming that this community has come to expect from the Society. If you would like more information about making a gift to either the Preservation Society of the Heritage Society, please contact Estelle at 860.727.6171 or ekafer@jewishhartford.org.

PRESERVATION SOCIETY

We are immensely grateful to the following individuals for their generous support at the \$1000 level.

**Michael and Naomi Cohen
David and Rochelle Fierston
Daniel and Arlene Neiditz
Zachs Family Foundation**

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

**Marion Berman
Benjamin Isaacson
Marilyn Lassow
Madalyn Levy
Deb Luster
Karen M. Rosen
Nancy Lee Schwartz
Jane Zande
Sandra Zieky**

IN MEMORIAM



**Ivan Finkle
Hinda Fisher
Lillian Hillman
David Nemirow
Iris Rosenberg
Ernest Sherry**



Coming this summer to the Mandell JCC!

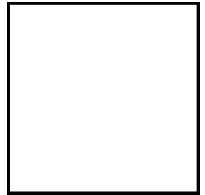
An exhibit from the Library of Congress and the
American Jewish Historical Society

“From Haven to Home: 350 Years of Jewish Life in America”

an exhibit showcasing the Jewish immigrant experience
from the first arrivals in 1654 to the present.

Interested in becoming a docent? We will provide
training. Please call 860-727-6170 or e-mail
lnewman@jewishhartford.org.

Zachs Campus
JHSGH
333 Bloomfield Avenue
West Hartford, CT 06117





THE JEWS OF SPAIN

**Looking back at 1500 years of the unique culture of
Sephardic Jews**



Sunday, April 2, 2017

6:00 P.M. — KOSHER SPANISH THEMED DINNER

**7:15 P.M. — LECTURE BY ANDRÉE AELION BROOKS,
NOTED JOURNALIST AND AUTHOR**

The Emanuel Synagogue, 160 Mohegan Dr., WH

**Co-sponsored by the Jewish Historical Society of Greater Hartford and the
Emanuel Synagogue Adult Education Committee**



Andrée Aelion Brooks is a journalist, author and lecturer currently specializing in Jewish history. A former contributing columnist for the *New York Times*, she is now an Associate Fellow at Yale University and founder of the Women's Campaign School at Yale. Her award-winning books include a biography of Dona Gracia Nasi, the 16th century international banker; *Russian Dance*, about a Jewish Bolshevik spy; and *Out of Spain*, a children's program in Sephardic history. In 2013 she was honored by the Connecticut Women's Hall of Fame.

Please fill out and return this portion with your check made out to JHSGH, 333 Bloomfield Ave., West Hartford, CT 06117. You may also register online at: www.jhsggh.org.

Please respond by Wednesday, March 22nd.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Members (of either institution) @ \$36/pp _____ Non-members @ \$40/pp _____ Total = _____