Seminarians Conference
Nov. 5-6, 1986

co-sponsored by
The American Jewish Committee and
The Interdenominational Theological Center

AJC has pioneered the field of interreligious affairs. Across the U.S., we have initiated dialogues, study groups, and special programming to foster interfaith understanding and cooperation. In the last few years, we have moved into the area of examining text books used in seminaries and in bringing Christian and Jewish seminary students together to talk about their religious heritages and their future interaction.

Atlanta will be the site of an historic first - bringing Black and Jewish seminarians together. ITC will host this conference from Nov. 5th-6th.

The Christian seminary participants are students in the 6 schools which make up ITC. Rabbinic students will come to Atlanta from seminaries in Cincinnati, New York and Philadelphia.

Students will participate in intensive dialogue, study and worship. Topics for the major sessions include:

Suffering: Holocaust, Slavery
Redemption: Liberation, Zionism
Understanding: Interpreting Scripture
Identity: Peoplehood, Ethnicity

Over the past year trained volunteers from AJC and NCJW have been recording the memoirs of outstanding Jewish women in Atlanta. Oral history is a collective memory bank. In different times we have made different uses of the past. Today we do not know what the future will ask of us. The stories of these women's lives will serve as a resource, now and in the future, for scholars, historians, authors and researchers. This project is helping to preserve a valuable part of Atlanta history and heritage to be passed on to future generations.

Board members work through dinner in selecting the priorities for the year ahead. (L-R) Gene DuBow, Director of AJC's Community Services Department; Joy Howard; Sandra Cuttler; and, Larry Lowenstein are pictured.

Atlanta Chapter - American Jewish Committee
1986-87 Program Priorities

Anti-Semitism and Extremism
- The farm crisis in Georgia
- Club discrimination (Jewish/Christian and male/female)

Israel and the Middle East
- Interpreting Israel's internal problems through internal education and outreach to general community
- Black/Jewish trip to Israel

World Affairs
- Consulate visits and briefing
- Seminar on Human Rights
- Trip to Soviet Union

Interreligious/Interethnic
- Black/Jewish Coalition with an outreach to youth
- Catholic/Jewish dialogue
- Seminarians Conference

Public Policy Issues
- Bicentennial of the Constitution (emphasis on church/state and pluralism issues)
- Women-feminization of poverty

Jewish
- Intra-Jewish dialogue
- Retreat for young professionals

"Women of Achievement"
A Unique Oral History Panel
Program Featuring: Spring Asher, Leah Janus, Dr. Rose Lahman.
Moderator: Carol Ashkinaze
Thursday Evening
Nov. 13 - 7:30 p.m.
WAGA-TV Studios
1551 Briarcliff Rd. N.E.

Dr. Mark Bauman talks about Rabbi Harry Epstein, his life and his work, at a training session for Oral History interviewers. AJC project co-chair, Dr. Roberta Golden chaired the session.

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You are cordially invited to
"A Celebration of Spiritual Music"
Wednesday, November 5, 1986
8:00 - 9:30 p.m.
ITC Chapel
featuring
ITC Chorus
Shirim Chorale of Atlanta
President’s Message

Marvin Weintraub

The American Jewish Committee, in the midst of its 80th anniversary, is a vital component in Jewish, American and international affairs. Our Atlanta Chapter is at a high level of activity. Enthusiasm for our programming throughout the community is increasing because of the caliber of the events reported in this newsletter.

From study groups, to dialogues, to formal program presentations, there is something for everyone in AJC. Many of you have responded to our involvement forms and are now a part of our numerous commissions and task forces. I urge you to take advantage of the many opportunities for personal growth and meeting interesting people that involvement in AJC provides.

Let me call special attention to our work with the young professionals group sponsored by the Atlanta Chapter. This group has formulated plans for the fall series of activities and welcomes the participation of additional young professionals. I encourage you to have members of your family and your friends who may be young professionals to participate in this group’s activities and join the Atlanta Chapter. It is from this group that we may look to chapter leadership in the future. I have welcomed members of the young professionals at our Board of Trustees meetings. Through this participation we can insure that the next generation of leadership will be aware of the high ideals and standards of the AJC.

While on the subject of chapter membership, Atlanta is still attracting newcomers. You meet them in your daily activities. Please invite them to our programs. Ask them to become AJC members. Thus, in the midst of our 80th year and at the beginning of 5747 of the Jewish New Year, together, all of us, will continue the tradition of support for AJC and service to the community with an ever expanding membership base.

Atlanta Chapter Members Working for AJC

Sandra Cuttler, John Hirsch, Joel Lowenstein, Joe Weber and Chuck Wolf have been appointed to the Atlanta Chapter Board of Trustees by Marvin Weintraub.

Alan Lubel has been selected as a participant in AJC’s Konrad Adenauer Exchange Program with the Federal Republic of West Germany.

Ray Ann Kremer was selected as the new co-chair of the Women of Achievement Oral History Project. Dr. Roberta Golden continues as co-chair.

Herb Cohen travelled to Washington, D.C. for a meeting of an AJC national committee reviewing German and American textbooks.

Ed Elson participated in an AJC mission to Austria to explore ways AJC could work with the Jewish community to combat anti-Semitism arising out of the Waldheim election.

Dr. Cedric Suzman attended an AJC meeting at national headquarters to update AJC’s policy statement on South Africa.

Diane Harnell Cohen and Cookie Shapiro are serving on an AJC national task force on family policy. They attended the first of four meetings, which was held in Boston.

Marvin Weintraub will present a report of the Atlanta Chapter’s work in Black/Jewish relations at the Presidents Day prior to the opening of the National Executive Council (NEC) meeting in Seattle.

Susie and Ed Elson, Diane and Richard Cohen and Marvin Weintraub will attend the NEC in Seattle.

Ronnie Henderson will travel to Israel as a staff assistant to Yehuda Rosenman, on AJC’s Academics Seminar in Israel. Yehuda is director of AJC’s Jewish Communal Affairs Department and is the leader of this seminar.

Interreligious / Interethnic

Black/Jewish Coalition

Summer events sponsored by the Coalition included an evening performance and discussion of the play “Bang, Bang Uber Alles”; a musical response to extremism, and a week of activities with students from Philadelphia. A full Atlanta itinerary was planned for the Black and Jewish teenagers traveling together with project, “Operation Understanding” co-sponsored by AJC and Congressman William Gray, PA.

Reverend Joseph Roberts, Ebenezer Baptist Church, will speak to the Coalition about his recent trip to South Africa with Coretta Scott King on Monday, October 27, 12:00 noon, Martin Luther King Center. Call the AJC office for reservations.

Catholic Dialogue

The fall series of programs to be discussed by the Jewish-Catholic dialogue participants include: religion and politics, respect life month, Vatican-Israel relations. The October meeting was held in Carol and Bob Nemo’s Sukkah.

Luncheons with religious leaders

Reverend Sheila Hunter, Sandy Springs Christian Church, spoke to the Interreligious Affairs Commission about the conversation on unification of the United Church of Christ and seven other denominations.

Bishop Ernest Fitzgerald will speak about the Methodist church and its work in responding to the farm crisis in Georgia at an AJC meeting on December 9th.
Israel

educating our members reaching out to the general community

Israel

Stu Eizenstat, former Assistant to President Carter for Domestic Affairs and Policy, spoke on his view of the "New Zionism" and Israel's internal conflicts at a membership meeting in August.

Academician's Seminar

Dr. Kathryn Amdur, Department of History, Emory University, was selected to participate in AJC's 17th Annual Academicians Seminar in Israel. Dr. Amdur's academic field of specialization includes modern European history and French labor and social history. She received her M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in the field of history from Stanford University.

Black Hebrew Israelites

AJC materials on the Black Hebrew Israelites were distributed to clergy, black leaders and editorial writers at the Atlanta Journal/Constitution. This behind the scenes work resulted in an informed response to the news that Black Hebrews, deported from Israel, had arrived in Atlanta. Articles explaining the illegal cult were published in numerous newspapers which defended Israel's non-racist policies.

Student Exchange

Atlanta Chapter, AJC hosted a luncheon on October 20th at North Fulton High School for Israeli students and Atlanta host families participating in the Atlanta Public School International Students Exchange Program.

World Jewry

Human Rights

Dr. Thomas Buergenthal, Fellow for Human Rights at the Carter Center, Chief Justice of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, spoke at an International Relations Commission meeting. Professor Buergenthal spoke about the Waldheim affair, human rights around the world, and issues related to Central America. Discussion was held on the possibility of holding a major conference on human rights in Atlanta.

Dr. Cedric Suzman, Vice President, listens to presentation given by Dr. Thomas Buergenthal on human rights.

Soviet Jewry

The Atlanta Jewish Federation, Worldwide Jewish Affairs Committee, is coordinating a major Simchat Torah Rally on: Monday, October 27th 7:30 p.m. The Temple AJC is helping in this critical issue by securing names on petitions, collecting letters to President Reagan on behalf of our adopted refusenik, Moshe Abramov, and in encouraging attendance at the rally. Call the AJC office if you need petitions. Please send your signed petitions and letters to the AJC office.

Reverend Walter Kimbrough, Ben Hill United Methodist Church speaks at interfaith memorial service. Other speakers pictured are Betty Jacobson, Atlanta Jewish Federation; Dean John C. Sanders, Cathedral Church of St. Philip; Rabbi Harvey Winokur, Atlanta Rabbinical Association.

Consular Meetings

Vice Consul General Eckhart Herold, Federal Republic of West Germany, is spending October in the Atlanta consulate office after serving as director of political affairs in his country's New York consulate office. He addressed the topic of "East and West Germany...from confrontation to cooperation" at an AJC luncheon meeting.

On Friday November 7, a meeting will be held with the Nigerian consulate.

Terrorism

In response to the terrorist attacks on an airline in Karachi, Pakistan and in a synagogue in Istanbul, Turkey, AJC organized an interfaith memorial service. Held at Atlanta City Hall, Mayor Andrew Young joined with religious leaders of all faiths in denouncing terrorism and anti-Semitism. This service was held on the same day as similar services, convened by AJC in 22 cities in the U.S., and coincided with the service in the synagogue in Istanbul.
American Public Policy
AJC co-sponsored a conference with Georgia State University on the impact of the budget cuts mandated by the Gramm-Rudman Hollings Act on human services in Georgia.
ITC is co-ordinating and hosting the National Issues Forum series. AJC is co-sponsoring these important forums which include the following 3 topics for 1986:
- Criminal Justice - Sept.
- Immigration - Oct. 22
- Farm Crisis - Nov. 19
Held at ITC, these sessions are open to the public and are held from 7 to 9 p.m.

Welcome New Members
Arnold & Judy Rubenstein
William & Laurie Robbins
Katherine and Ruth Hertzka
Barry and Susan Lack
Doris Mirowski
Marshall and Sara Duke

Fall Programming for Young Professionals
October 29: "Israel - Internal Conflicts"
Speaker: Arthur Koll, Vice Consul Israeli Consulate
Hosts: Joy and Bernie Howard
November 11: “Executive Suite Discrimination”
Speakers: Ed Abrams, Miles Alexander
Host: Irma Goldwasser
December 4: “Jews and the Media”
Speakers: Vida Goldgar, Elmo Ellis, Gustav Niebuhr
Hosts: Irwin and Joel Lowenstein

New Life Trustees presented sculptured Chai at 80th Anniversary Celebration by National Board of Governors member Tom Asher.
(L-R) Tom Asher, William Breman, Alene Uhry, Herb Cohen. Looking on: Doris & Marvin Weintraub.

New Life Trustees presented sculptured Chai at 80th Anniversary Celebration by National Board of Governors member Tom Asher.

Calendar of Events
October
27 - Black/Jewish Coalition
King Center 12:00 noon
27 - Soviet Jewry Rally
The Temple 7:30 p.m.
29 - Young Professionals Meeting
Home of Joy & Bernie Howard

November
5-6 - Seminarians Conference-ITC
11 - Young Professionals Meeting
Home of Irma Goldwasser
13 - Oral History Panel
WAGA Studio 7:30 p.m.
19 - Board of Trustees Meeting
Commerce Club 12:00 noon

December
4 - Women’s Plea for Soviet Jewry
State Capitol 12:00 noon
7 - Young Professionals Meeting
Home of Joel & Irwin Lowenstein
9 - Meeting with Methodist Bishop
Ernest Fitzgerald, AJC office 12:00 noon
12 - Oral History Training
NJCW office 9:30 a.m.

Marvin Weintraub presents Chai to new Life Trustee, Irma Goldwasser.