



## *Alliance for the Study of the Holocaust 2008 Review*

Dear Friends of the Alliance:

The past year has been a roller coaster of highs and lows. We continue to be both distressed and vigilant about the global context of strife and warfare, especially the on-going situation in Darfur and the Congo. Yet, there is hope in our word and a true commitment to eliminating all forms of intolerance.

The members of the Alliance are thrilled to welcome several new members to the Board, which feels more and more like a family, who share many of the same values and concerns. The report that follows provides more detail about both the 2008 and 2009 Annual Sonoma State University Holocaust Lecture Series, the Alliance, the Center for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide, and the Memorial Grove project.

While we know it will be hard to top the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Series in 2008 (entitled *Lost and Found: Living in a Post-Holocaust World*), all of us are looking forward to **the 2009 series** with great anticipation—***Understanding the Past: Personal and Intellectual Perspectives on the Holocaust and Genocide***. We will be welcoming several **new speakers**: Barbara Epstein, who will be delivering this year's Robert L. Harris Memorial Lecture on the Minsk Ghetto; Victoria Hertling, who will be providing new insight into Schindler's List; and our new colleague Eric Williams, in the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, who will be speaking about the International War Crimes Tribunal. Christina Radich, whose mother was involved in the Dutch Resistance, will also be speaking. We also look forward to **the return of several distinguished speakers** who we know will shed new light and insight: James Bittner, Robert Krikorian, Mathilde Mukatabana, and James Waller. Rather than our traditional survivor panel, this year's series will include three **lectures by survivors**—Lucille Eichengreen, Paul Schwarzbart and Jeannette Ringold—as well as a panel of the children and grandchildren of survivors. We are grateful to Alliance Board member Flora Lee Ganzler for teaching in the series last year and welcome an SSU colleague Denny Bozman-Moss to this year's faculty. (Please see the full schedule later in this

report and please double check the Center's web page for the final version at: <http://www.sonoma.edu/holocaust/center.htm>).

As many of you know, the **Erna & Arthur Salm Holocaust and Genocide Memorial Grove** is becoming a reality and we look forward with great anticipation to its **dedication on the afternoon of Sunday, March 29th**. We know this will be a truly memorable experience and the culmination of a number of years of dedication by many, especially Dean Elaine Leeder, Professor Jann Nunn and Alliance Board member David Salm. If you have not already seen the video about the project, we hope that you will see it at <http://www.sonoma.edu/holocaust/center.htm>.

On behalf of the Alliance, I want to express my gratitude to all who helped us in the past year and I hope that you will continue to generously support our efforts. We realize that this past year has been an especially trying time financially for so many of you. Others have generously supported the Memorial Grove project that will be providing support to the series through the Benko Endowment and the Armenian Genocide Memorial Lecture Fund. Any amount that you are able to contribute directly toward the lecture series will allow us to continue to bring speakers to the series who can expand our understanding of the Holocaust and genocide and educate the next generations of students and future educators.

We look forward to seeing many new and familiar faces in the coming months.

If you can, do attend one (or more) of the lectures next semester and do join us afterwards for dinner with our guest speaker, the faculty and Alliance members. If you are unable to be there, you can view any of the lectures at: <http://www.sonoma.edu/holocaust/center.htm>.

May 2009 begin for all of you with the promise of a world at peace,

Barbara Lesch McCaffry, Ph.D.  
President, Alliance for the Study of the Holocaust  
and Professor, Hutchins School of Liberal Studies  
(707) 664-2273 / [alliance@sonoma.edu](mailto:alliance@sonoma.edu)

## ***THE ALLIANCE FOR THE STUDY OF THE HOLOCAUST***

The Alliance for the Study of the Holocaust was formed in 1982 on behalf of the victims and survivors of the Holocaust and the need to tell their stories and learn from their experiences. Those who began this collaborative effort between the community and members of the Sonoma State University faculty promised to let the world know of the atrocities that had occurred. The initial intention was primarily to learn the facts, act on them, and never forget.

As a result of these efforts, a highly successful Lecture Series on the Holocaust and Genocide was created at SSU. As a University-community partnership, the Board includes members of the community, University faculty and administrators, and students who have participated in the Lecture Series.

Its current mission is to co-sponsor the Lecture Series, to support SSU's Center for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide in providing programming to the larger community (including K-12 teachers), and to collaborate with other community groups working with issues related to the Holocaust and genocide.

We are thrilled that Herbert Hans Angress has recently joined the board as have three new student board members: Hope Byerly and Robin M. Light (both of whom worked with the Professor Goodman in support of the lecture series last year), and Nick Firestone, who was an intern with the Alliance last year and also our photographer. We look forward to inviting and welcoming other new board members in the coming months. If you are interested in working with us, please either send an e-mail to [alliance@sonoma.edu](mailto:alliance@sonoma.edu) or leave a message at (707) 664-2273.

### **Board Members**

Herbert Hans Angress  
 Larry Carlin  
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     Vice President and Liaison to the Armenians  
     of the North Bay  
 Flora Lee Ganzler  
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 David Salm  
     Recording Secretary/Treasurer  
 B. J. Stolbov  
 Barbara Tobin  
     Corresponding Secretary

### **Student Board Members, 2008-9**

Hope Byerly  
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 Robin M. Light

### **Associate Board Members**

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### **Emeritus Board Members**

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 Evelyn "Evey" Sackler



Robert L. Harris Memorial Lecture Reception at Congregation Ner Shalom (4/8/08)

## REPORT FROM THE CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF THE HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE

2008 was our most active and memorable year. **The 25<sup>th</sup> annual lecture series** featured an outstanding schedule of notable lecturers. In addition to Zachary Baker's exploration of Eastern European culture, the Catskill Klezmerim presented an astonishing concert and lecture. Local survivors Hilde Catz, Hans Cohn, and Lillian Judd deeply impressed and inspired the 107 students enrolled in the course. Michael Berenbaum and Richard Hovannisian, recognized as the preeminent scholars on the Holocaust and the Armenian genocide, gave inspired and informative talks. Following the Robert L. Harris Memorial Lecture there was a memorable reception held at Congregation Ner Shalom. (Special thanks again to the members of the Board who catered the event). We are indebted to Professor Brian Wilson for his assistance in arranging for the visit by the Catskills Klezmerim.

The Center received several generous donations, including one from Henry and Lucille Libicki through the Jewish Community Federation Endowment. The outstanding 2008 Series was made possible through generous donations to the Alliance, as well as a grant from the Sonoma State Instructionally Related Activities Fund (which is supported by student fees) that was written by Myrna Goodman, Daniel Harris, and Barbara Lesch McCaffry

We are looking forward to the 2009 Series: *Understanding the Past: Personal and Intellectual Perspectives on the Holocaust and Genocide*.

I would like to thank you for your past support and look forward to working with you in this coming year.

Myrna Goodman, Ph.D.  
Director, Center for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide and Chair, Department of Sociology

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**THE ERNA & ARTHUR SALM  
HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE  
MEMORIAL GROVE**

The Center for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide & The Alliance for the Study of the

Holocaust are pleased to report that, under the leadership of Dr. Elaine Leeder, Dean of the School of Social Sciences, Sonoma State University is creating a Holocaust and Genocide Memorial Grove on the campus that will honor and memorialize those who have suffered and have been victimized as a result of genocide.

In addition to a 10-foot high glass tower that will be internally illuminated from dusk to dawn, the installation—designed by SSU Art Professor Jann Nunn—will have space for up to 520 laser engraved ivory colored memorial bricks that can be dedicated to the memory of those whose lives have been affected by genocide. The inscribed bricks will be placed like railroad ties crossing tracks imbedded into the pathway and will be an integral component of the sculpture.

The installation and sculpture component of the Memorial Grove provides a venue to honor the lives lost in genocide, beginning with the Native American genocide to present day Darfur. It creates a compelling context in which participant groups—including Native Americans, Armenians, Cambodians, Rwandans, Darfurians and those from the Holocaust—can honor and recognize friends, ancestors and villages, by providing a setting for closure, remembrance and education.

Proceeds from the sale of the memorial bricks will be used to continue funding the SSU Lecture Series on the Holocaust and Genocide (which can either be directed to the Paul V. Benko Endowment Fund or the Armenian Genocide Memorial Lecture Fund) and may be deductible for tax purposes.

We are delighted to announce that **the Holocaust & Genocide Memorial Grove at Sonoma State University will be dedicated on the afternoon of Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2009**. Brick orders that were placed by November 30, 2008 will be included in the Memorial Grove sculpture when it is dedicated. Additional inscribed bricks will be installed after the opening ceremony.

For more information, photos of the work in progress, and a video about the project, please visit:

<http://www.sonoma.edu/holocaust/center.htm>

## 2009 SONOMA COUNTY YOM HASHOAH COMMEMORATIONS

(both Yom Hashoah events are free and open to  
the public)

**The annual Community Yom Hashoah Commemoration** will be on **Sunday, April 19, 2009 at 2 p.m.** at the Friedman Events Center at 4676 Mayette Avenue in Santa Rosa. The theme of the 2009 commemoration is "Telling the Story: Creating Continuity." For more information, contact the Jewish Community Center at (707) 528-4222.

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"The Holocaust & Genocide: Three Perspectives" is the theme for **Congregation Shomrei Torah's** 2009 Yom Hashoah Memorial Observance on **Monday, April 20, 2009 at 7 p.m.** at 2600 Bennett Valley Road in Santa Rosa. Keynote speakers will be Rhonda Findling, a child of Holocaust Survivors; Mathilde Mukantabana, a Professor at Consumnes River College in Sacramento whose family were victims of the Tutsi Genocide in Rwanda; and Shomrei's Rabbi George Gittleman. Holocaust Candle Lighters will include Jewish survivors, Gays & Lesbians, Roma, the disabled, Righteous Gentiles, and Political Prisoners. Shomrei will also honor other victims of genocide including Native Americans,

Armenians, Cambodians, Rwandans and Darfurians. For more information, call (707) 578-5519.

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## OTHER 2009 GENOCIDE COMMEMORATIONS

Every year on or around **April 24<sup>th</sup>**, the Bay Area Armenian National Committee coordinates an **event commemorating the Armenian Genocide**. For information, see <http://www.ancsf.org/>

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The Friends of Rwanda Association will conduct its **15<sup>th</sup> year commemoration of the Tutsi genocide in Rwanda on April 18th**. The Memorial service will take place at the University of the Pacific in Stockton, California. For more information, see the web page of FORA: Friends of Rwanda Association at:

<http://www.friends-of-rwanda.org/>

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*Needless to say, this has been a productive year and we could not have done it without your continuing commitment! Your intentions, actions, and kindness have helped us bring exceptional speakers for the series, enhanced our outreach to local middle and high school teachers, and supported the annual Community Yom Hashoah Commemoration.*



Second & Third Generation Survivor Panel: Barbara Lesch McCaffry (moderator), Steve Schwartz, Julia Silverberg Nemeth & Christyne Davidian (5/13/08)



Pouring concrete for the Holocaust and Genocide Memorial Grove Project at the Lakes on the Sonoma State campus (10/08)



**We would like to express our gratitude to the following donors who made it possible for us to continue the work of those who founded the Alliance**

<p><b>Paul V. Benko Holocaust Education Endowment Fund</b> (An endowment whose interest supports the series) Herb and Ellen Brosbe (in memory of Elizabeth Carlson and in honor of Lillian Judd's 85th birthday) Ruth Gumpel (in memory of Ella Gumpel née Salinger) Evelyn Gurevitch (in memory of Paul Benko) Iris and Howard Harris S. and A. Horowitz (in memory of Audrey Horowitz) Lily Krulevitch (in honor of Ann Weinstock, a survivor) Beverly Lesch and David Osburn (in honor of Barbara Lesch McCaffry and Mac McCaffry) Edith Silverman (in honor of Sylvia Sucher's 95th birthday) Roberta and Murray Zucker *****</p>	<p>L. Harris Memorial Lecture) Dina Angress Herbert Hans Angress Larry and Judy Carlin Hilde and Tovi Catz Hans M. Cohn Evelyn Fielden Iris and Howard Harris Nancy R. Harris (on the occasion of the 2008 Robert L. Harris Memorial Lecture) Shirley Kapland (in memory of Anne and Sam Lesch) James and Diana Keegan Barbara Lesch &amp; Mac McCaffry (in honor of Lillian Judd's 85th birthday and in memory of Tom Lough) Ralph and Tecla Pierotti (in memory of all Holocaust and Genocide Victims) Joseph F. Schwartz Edith Silverman Sylvia Sucher (in honor of Lillian Judd's 85th birthday) *****</p>	<p>Sharon and Virgil Miller Donations in Memory of Henry Leyser Sonoma State University Instructionally Related Fund *****</p>
<p><b>Alliance for the Study of the Holocaust Lecture Series Fund</b> (Supports the lecture series and the annual Robert</p>	<p><b>SSU Center for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide</b> (Supports the work of the Center) Myrna Goodman Jewish Community Federation Endowment Susan and David Garfin Lucille and Henry Libicki</p>	<p><b>Armenian Genocide Memorial Lecture Fund</b> (Supports the annual Armenian Genocide Memorial Lecture) Christyne A. Davidian David Davidian John Marukian Motorola Matching Funds *****</p>
		<p><b>Guest Lecturer Hospitality Fund</b> (Provides funding to cover the cost of dinners for our guest speakers) Herbert Hans Angress Larry Carlin Christyne Davidian Flora Lee Ganzler Myrna Goodman Barbara Lesch McCaffry David Salm B. J. Stolbov Barbara Tobin</p>

*We also want to express our appreciation to all those involved in the Erna & Arthur Salm Holocaust and Genocide Memorial Grove Project, especially Dean Elaine Leeder, Sophia LaRosa, Kate McClintock, Jann Nunn and David Salm and to Professor Emerita Yvette Fallandy who assisted with the preparation of a French version of the Memorial Grove Order Form.*

*All donations to the Paul V. Benko Holocaust Education Endowment Fund and the Armenian Genocide Memorial Lecture Fund generated from the sale of inscribed memorial bricks for the SSU Holocaust and Genocide Memorial Grove will be separately acknowledged in conjunction with the dedication.*

*Your continued support is needed and appreciated as we plan for the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Lecture Series and the dedication of the Holocaust and Genocide Memorial Grove on March 29, 2009.*

## 26th Annual Sonoma State University Holocaust Lecture Series

January 27-May 19, 2009 / Tuesdays from 4:00-5:40 in Warren Auditorium (Ives Hall)

*Understanding the Past: Personal and Intellectual Perspectives on the Holocaust and Genocide*

- January 27: INTRODUCTION TO THE SERIES / Course Faculty
- February 3: HOLOCAUST IN HISTORICAL CONTEXT  
Stephen Bittner, Ph.D., Sonoma State University
- February 10: CELLULOID PERSPECTIVES ON THE HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE  
Myrna Goodman, Ph.D., Sonoma State University
- February 17: PERSPECTIVES ON INTERNATIONAL WAR CRIMES TRIBUNALS  
Eric Williams, Ph.D., Sonoma State University
- February 24: *FROM ASHES TO LIFE: MY MEMORIES OF THE HOLOCAUST*  
Lucille Eichengreen
- March 3: *BECOMING EVIL* / James Waller, Ph.D., Whitworth College
- March 10: *BREAKING THE SILENCE: A HOLOCAUST CHILDHOOD* / Paul A. Schwarzbart
- March 17: UNDERSTANDING THE PAST: PERSONAL AND INTELLECTUAL PERSPECTIVES ON  
THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE / Robert Krikorian, Ph.D., George Washington University  
*Armenian Genocide Memorial Lecture*
- March 24: *THE MINSK GHETTO 1941-1943: JEWISH RESISTANCE AND SOVIET  
INTERNATIONALISM* / Barbara Epstein, Ph.D., University of California, Santa  
Cruz / *Robert L. Harris Memorial Lecture*
- March 29: SPECIAL EVENT: Dedication of the Erna & Arthur Salm Holocaust and Memorial Grove  
Project (Sunday afternoon, time T.B.A.)
- March 31: CESAR CHAVEZ BIRTHDAY (campus closed)
- April 7: GENOCIDE OF THE TUTSIS IN RWANDA / Mathilde Mukatabana, M.A., M.S.W.,  
Cosumnes Community College and President, FORA: Friends of Rwanda Association
- April 14: SPRING BREAK (campus closed)
- April 21: WE WILL REMEMBER: 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> GENERATION SURVIVORS / Barbara Lesch  
McCaffry, Ph.D., Sonoma State University, moderator  
*In Observance of Yom Hashoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day)*
- April 28: *OUR MOTHER'S WAR: A BIOGRAPHY OF A CHILD OF THE DUTCH RESISTANCE*  
Christina Radich
- May 5: *THE ROAD TO RESCUE: THE UNTOLD STORY OF SCHINDLER'S LIST*  
Viktoria Hertling, Ph.D., Director, Center for Holocaust, Genocide & Peace Studies,  
University of Nevada, Reno.
- May 12: HIDDEN CHILDREN DURING THE HOLOCAUST / Jeannette Ringold, Ph.D., Chair,  
Bay Area Hidden Children's Group
- May 19: WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED? / Student / Faculty Panel

For the final schedule and for streaming videos of each of the guest lectures in the series, please see:

<http://www.sonoma.edu/holocaust.htm>.



Paula Birnbaum & Michaela Grobbel  
3/11/08



Jerry Fowler & John Steiner  
4/22/08



Mathilde Mukatabana  
4/15/08



Catskills Klezmerim  
(2/12/08)



Barbara Lesch McCaffry, Mitch Braff  
& Myrna Goodman (3/18/08)



Fritz Tubach & Bernat Rosner  
(4/1/08)



Richard Hovanissian with Alliance & Armenians of the North Bay Members  
(5/6/08)



Michael Berenbaum  
(4/8/08)

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