



THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE
AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

MS-831: Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Foundation Records, 1980–2008.
Series B: Commission on Jewish Education in North America (CJENA). 1980–1993.
Subseries 2: Commissioner and Consultant Biographical Files, 1987–1993.

Box
5

Folder
27

Green, Arthur, 1988-1989.

For more information on this collection, please see the finding aid on the
American Jewish Archives website.

COMMISSIONER CONTACT SHEET

Name Arthur Green Assigned to _____

Mailing Reconstructionist Rabbinical College Off. phone 215-576-0800
 Address Church Road and Greenwood Avenue
Wyncote, PA 19095 Home phone _____

Fax _____ Telex _____

Comments _____

Date	Nature of Contact/Status	Next Steps/Action Needed

June 21, 1988

Dear Arthur:

I called your office today and learned that you are in London. I am leaving the country, myself, and will not be back until July 5th.

Meanwhile, I would like to invite you to join me in a new initiative. The Mandel Associated Foundations is in the process of organizing a Commission on Jewish Education in North America. The Commission will function in cooperation with the JWB and JESNA and in collaboration with the CJF.

The purpose of this Commission is to bring together the best lay and professional minds we can assemble to make a positive impact on the quality of Jewish education in the United States and Canada.

We believe that Jewish education needs a great deal of improvement if it is to make its appropriate contribution to the constructive continuity of the Jewish people. We believe that our Commission has a good chance to bring about important results, because American Jewish leadership is now sufficiently concerned to make this a high priority, and because there are important new financial resources available for Jewish education if we show how these resources can be utilized to good effect.

I hope that you will serve as a member of this Commission. The Commission will meet four to six times over a period of eighteen months to two years. It will have the benefit of a professional staff and consultants who will do the research directed by the Commission, and staff the Commission and its subgroups. The first meeting of the Commission is scheduled to be held on August 1st in New York City.

Thus far everyone asked has agreed to serve including Mandell Berman, Jack Bieler, Charles Bronfman, John Colman, Lester Crown, David Dubin, Stuart Eizenstat, Joshua Elkin, Eli Evans, Max Fisher, Alfred Gottschalk, Rabbi Irving Greenberg, Robert Hiller, Carol Ingall, Mark Lainer, Norman Lamm, Sara Lee, Seymour Martin Lipset, Robert Loup, Matthew Maryles, Florence Melton, Donald Mintz, Lester Pollack, Charles Ratner, Harriet Rosenthal, Esther Leah Ritz, Alvin Schiff, Ismar Schorsh, Daniel Shapiro, Yitzak Twersky, and Bennett Yanowitz.

I know that you can be an important addition to the work of the Commission and I hope that you will wish to participate.

Sincerely,



MORTON L. MANDEL

Dr. Arthur Green
President
Reconstructionist Rabbinical College
Church Road and Greenwood Avenue
Wyncote, Pennsylvania 19095

(VFL)

See he has
accepted - be
Sure he has 8/1
all set aside, etc
~



VFD

reconstructionist rabbinical college

CHURCH ROAD and GREENWOOD AVENUE
WYNCOTE, PENNSYLVANIA 19095
(215) 576-0800

June 28, 1988
13 Tammuz, 5748

Mr. Morton L. Mandel
4500 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44103

Dear Mort:

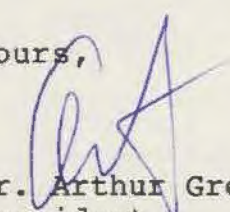
I'm sorry you were unable to reach me when you called last week. I have no regrets, however, about my week in London. I was at a wonderful conference on the history of Hasidism and at the same time enjoyed the benefits of visiting that most wonderfully civilized and exciting city. I hope your trip was a good one as well.

I'm honored by your invitation to join the Commission on Jewish Education in North America. Your list is indeed most impressive and I hope that I can make a contribution to that most distinguished group. I look forward to hearing from you further as plans develop.

I had been hoping to get back to you, in fact, regarding support for our December Conference Imagining the Jewish Future. I don't know if you've yet received a copy of the Conference brochure which is "hot off the press" and I am enclosing one for you.

I look forward to speaking with you during the second week in July. Any help you can give on this conference would be especially appreciated. We have been bold enough to go ahead with plans counting on the fact that funding should be available for something as exciting and innovative as this. Right now it is of great urgency to us that we solidify those commitments of support. Warm good wishes.

Yours,


Dr. Arthur Green
President

AG:eg
Encl.

I how understand
2 commitment his
come through!
Thank you!
A.G.



reconstructionist rabbinical college

CHURCH ROAD and GREENWOOD AVENUE
WYNCOTE, PENNSYLVANIA 19095
(215) 576-0800

Art D ✓
MLM —

August 29, 1988
17 Elul, 5748

Mr. Morton L. Mandel
4500 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44103

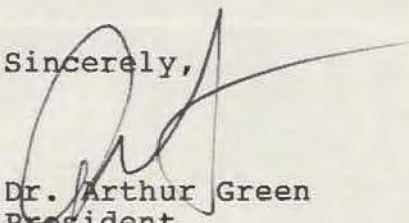
Dear Mort:

I'm writing to express our gratitude to you for the \$6,000 contribution toward our conference "Imagining the Jewish Future" to be held this coming December. Your participation in making this event possible is a compliment to your own forward-looking attitude toward Jewish education and communal life.

I know that you have already seen a copy of the conference brochure, but I enclose another for your convenience. I wonder whether there is any chance of your joining us to attend some part of the Conference. Do give that some thought and put it on your calendar if you plan to be available at that time of year.

I was sorry not to be able to make it to the first Jewish education meeting last month, but it caught me in the midst of a much needed vacation. I do look forward to seeing you at the next one. Meanwhile, warm regards and best wishes to you and yours for a shana tova.

Sincerely,



Dr. Arthur Green
President

AG:eg

MORTON L. MANDEL

4500 EUCLID AVENUE • CLEVELAND, OHIO 44103

Art N

September 19, 1988

Dear Art:

Thanks very much for your recent letter, in which you thank us for our commitment toward your conference and, also, inviting me to attend.

Regrettably, I will be in Israel at that time, and so won't be able to make it. However, I do look forward to seeing you at the next meeting of our Committee on Jewish Education in North America, scheduled for December 13.

I want to take this opportunity to wish you and yours a wonderful and happy New Year, and I look forward, with pleasure, to seeing you soon.

Sincerely,

MORTON L. MANDEL

Dr. Arthur Green
President
Reconstructionist Rabbinical
College
Church Road and Greenwood Avenue
Wyncote, PA 19095

FEB 6 1989



reconstructionist rabbinical college

CHURCH ROAD and GREENWOOD AVENUE
WYNCOTE, PENNSYLVANIA 19095
(215) 576-0800

January 26, 1989
20 Shevat, 5749

Mr. Arthur J. Naparstek
Commission on Jewish Education
in North America
4500 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44103

Dear Arthur:

I've been meaning to write to you since the Commission meeting in December to tell you what a wonderful event that was and how pleased I am to be a part of this important effort.

Those of us who labor in the field of Jewish education on a day to day basis sometimes lose the global perspective that only participating in a meeting like this can restore to us.

I want to tell you that I think the decision to concentrate the Commission's efforts in the areas of personnel and support for the field was a wise one. Hearing the various programmatic suggestions touted by one camp or another, I began to feel that no matter which of them was selected, several things equally valuable would suffer from neglect. I could not agree more than improved efforts in the areas of personnel and general support would help all the specific program areas at once.

At the same time, I hope you and the Commission heard my plea for articulating a clear sense of vision and purpose in Jewish education in the course of the effort to recruit personnel. I don't believe we will tap the idealism and dedication that we seek merely by the raising of salaries and the improvement of benefit packages, however much I agree that these urgently need to be upgraded as well. I hope the Commission staff will find a way to tackle this question of underlying vision.


I'm especially happy to report to you that the Philadelphia community seems most interested in the Commission's work. I have been asked to give reports on the December meeting to two separate groups. One involves key members of the lay board of the Central Agency for Jewish Education in this city at the request of Barbara Steinberg, the new Central Agency Director. The other is a group of professionals in the field of Jewish education under the leadership of Dr. Jeffrey Schein. I expect to be delivering both of those reports over the course of the next month. I gather there is much anticipation of great things to come out of this commission and it is nice to know that professionals and lay people in the field have their ears perked.

I just spoke with Joe Reimer regarding the question of short-range tasks for the Commission. I spoke strongly in favor of the notion of multiple demonstration projects. I would hate to see the Commission, even at this stage, be characterized as a group that produces nothing but verbiage. I think we would do best by actually showing a number of communities what it is that we intend and having some real accomplishments to show for ourselves.

Naturally, I would be delighted if the Philadelphia community were included among those areas chosen for demonstration projects and I would do everything I could to use the good offices of this institution to support such efforts in any way. Please feel free and welcome to call upon me in that regard.

Warm regards and best wishes in your ongoing efforts.

Sincerely yours,



Dr. Arthur Green
President

AG:eg

J. Reimer

Interview with Arthur Green (4/24/89)
2 hours in his home in Philadelphia

1. Rabbi Green had just received the letter to commissioners and seemed quite attuned to where we left off in December and where we were going in terms of demonstration centers - which he and I had discussed last in January. He favors what we then called "the multiple demonstration" approach.

2. We began the current discussion with the question of how does the Commission implement a demonstration approach. Given that a site has been selected, Arthur suggested the following scenerio: a. hire a central local person to run the demonstration center; b. develop an institutional link between the center and local Jewish colleges and agencies; c. establish fellowships to bring in practitioners from other locales to work as interns in the center; d. develop an outreach and publicity strategy to give national visibility to the demonstration projects.

3. We reflected on the model of the havura which we were both involved in at its inception. Green believes the original havurah demonstrated both how powerful it can be to bring together a concentration of talented people working on one project and how the image of something new and exciting can generate interest and replication. He believes in developing powerful models through the concentration of human resources and talents.

4. I begin to describe in general terms the mechanism for implementing the community demonstration projects and he reacts positively. His remarks focus on these points: a. In balancing between the tasks of selecting communities and securing funding sources, it is important that the board and the director separate the tasks and not have selection made or directly influenced by the funders' preferences. While the funders need to know that their areas of interest will be concentrely demonstrated in projects, it should not be they who select where those demonstration sites will be. b. In the selection process, what is being compared are alternative dreams or visions. Who has the richest visions within a given area and the demonstrated ability to move towards its realization? What the mechanism can contribute is a forum to articulate and evaluate the dream as well as help in securing the people who can come into a site and help make the dream an educational reality.

COMMISSION
ON JEWISH EDUCATION
IN NORTH AMERICA

4500 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44103
216 391-8300

Commissioners

Morton L. Mandel
Chairman
Mona Riklis Ackerman
Ronald Appleby
David Arnow
Mandell L. Berman
Jack Bieler
Charles R. Bronfman
John C. Colman
Maurice S. Corson
Lester Crown
David Dubin
Stuart E. Eizenstat
Joshua Elkin
Eli N. Evans
Irwin S. Field
Max M. Fisher
Alfred Gottschalk
Arthur Green
Irving Greenberg
Joseph S. Gruss
Robert I. Hiller
David Hirschhorn
Carol K. Ingall
Ludwig Jesselson
Henry Koschitzky
Mark Lainer
Norman Lamm
Sara S. Lee
Seymour Martin Lipset
Haskel Lookstein
Robert E. Loup
Matthew J. Maryles
Florence Melton
Donald R. Mintz
Lester Pollack
Charles Ratner
Esther Leah Ritz
Harriet L. Rosenthal
Alvin I. Schiff
Lionel H. Schipper
Ismar Schorsch
Harold M. Schulweis
Daniel S. Shapiro
Margaret W. Tishman
Isidore Twersky
Bennett Yanowitz
Isaiah Zeldin

In Formation

Senior Policy Advisors

David S. Ariel
Seymour Fox
Annette Hochstein
Stephen H. Hoffman
Arthur J. Naparstek
Arthur Rotman
Carmel Schwartz
Herman D. Stein
Jonathan Woodner
Henry L. Zucker

Director

Arthur J. Naparstek

Staff

Virginia E. Levi
Joseph Kemner

September 8, 1989

Dr. Arthur Green
Reconstructionist Rabbinical College
Church Road and Greenwood Avenue
Wyncote, Pennsylvania 19095

Dear Art:

I was pleased to talk with you earlier this week about the progress of the Commission. Many thanks for agreeing to give the D'var Torah at the conclusion of the October 23 Commission meeting. I look forward to hearing it and seeing you then.

Sincerely,



Morton L. Mandel

IMAGINING THE JEWISH FUTURE:

COMMUNITY, CULTURE, AND THEOLOGY

A Conference for Jewish Scholars
and Communal Leaders

December 25-27, 1988

Adams Mark Hotel
City Avenue and
Monument Road
Philadelphia



CONFERENCE PURPOSE

The future directions American Jewry will take are unclear. Fresh visions of what we should become can have a profound impact on Jewish life in the decades ahead. This conference brings together some of today's most thoughtful and creative Jews to share their dreams about what we can become, to discuss the impediments to those dreams, and to suggest ways to overcome them. This celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College brings together scholars and thinkers, as well as communal leaders, to explore what the Jewish world will be as we enter the twenty-first century. With RRC's fiftieth anniversary (2038) as a target date, we come together to share our concerns, hopes, and dreams for the Jewish future.

Planning Committee

David Teutsch, Chair
Rebecca T. Alpert
Nancy Fuchs-Kreimer
Arthur Green
Lillian Kaplan
David Klatzker
Robert Kritz
Joy Levitt
Mordechai Liebling
Jacob Staub

Staff

Barbara Nussbaum,
Coordinator
JoanMarie Somers

Sponsored by
Reconstructionist Rabbinical College

In cooperation with

**Jewish Reconstructionist Foundation
Federation of Reconstructionist Congregations
and Havurot
Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association**

ARRANGEMENTS

Travel	From Philadelphia International Airport, Limelight Limousine is available to hotel. Cost, \$8.00 per person.
Hotel	Special Group Rates: \$75 single, \$85 double (per night); available December 25, 26, 27. Please mail enclosed room reservation card directly to the Adam's Mark Hotel. Reservations must be completed by November 25. Free parking is available at the hotel.
Child Care	Available and arranged by calling hotel operator at (215) 581-5000, Ext. 5090.

DIRECTIONS

HOW TO GET TO THE ADAM'S MARK HOTEL

City Avenue at Monument Road, Philadelphia

By Plane: All major airlines fly into Philadelphia International Airport. Limelight Limousine to the Adam's Mark Hotel is available at the baggage claim area. The limousine runs every half hour.

By Bus: Septa Bus (Route 44). Regular service weekdays only from Center City Philadelphia to City Avenue. Bus picks up in Center City at 5th and Market Streets, 17th and Kennedy Boulevard, City and Presidential Boulevard, and City and Monument Road, directly in front of hotel.

By Train: Amtrak provides train service into Philadelphia's 30th Street Station. Cab service is available to Adam's Mark Hotel from 30th Street Station.

By Auto: From New York and North Jersey: NJ TPK South to Exit #6, PA Tpk. to Exit #24. Schuylkill Expwy. (I-76) East to City Ave. Exit. One block south to Adam's Mark Hotel.

From Ohio and points west: PA TPK to Exit #24, see above.

From points south: US 1 North to Philadelphia. US 1 called City Avenue within city limits. City Avenue to Monument Road.

From Center City Philadelphia: Schuylkill Expressway (I-76) West to City Avenue. See above.

Presenters will not read their papers as part of the sessions. You will be mailed papers so that you can read them in advance. Please pick one topic in each time period.

Sunday

3:00 p.m.

- 1. God, Worship, and Religious Language
- 2. Social Justice: Revisioning Our Vision

7:30 p.m.

- 1. Jewish Literacy: Will More and More Be Known by Fewer and Fewer?
- 2. Jewish Identification and Affiliation: Future Directions

Monday

8:30 a.m.

- 1. Tradition and Religious Practice in an Open Society
- 2. Creativity and Community: The Jewish Artist's Experience

11:00 a.m.

- 1. Jewish Family Ethics in a Post-Halakhic Age
- 2. The Synagogue: An Evolving Institution

2:30 p.m.

- 1. Jewish Education: Crisis and Vision
- 2. Israeli and American Jewry: Drifting Apart?

PLEASE COMPLETE BOTH SIDES OF FORM.
MAIL DIRECTLY TO RABBINICAL COLLEGE IN
ENVELOPE PROVIDED.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Delaware Foyer
Registration

2:00 p.m. Delaware 1 & 2
Welcome

2:30 p.m.
Minhah Service

3:00 p.m. Two Concurrent Sessions
Delaware 3

God, Worship, and Religious Language

Presenter: **Arthur Green**, Reconstructionist
Rabbinical College

Respondents: **Judith Plaskow**, Monhatton College
Reuven Kimelman, Brandeis University

Delaware 4

Social Justice: Revisioning Our Vision

Presenter: **Arthur Waskow**, Shalom Center
Respondents: **Irving Levine**, American Jewish
Committee

David Wortman, Jewish Community Relations
Council, Philadelphia

5:45 p.m. Gettysburg 1-3
Dinner*

7:30 p.m. Two Concurrent Sessions
Delaware 3

**Jewish Literacy: Will More and More be
Known by Fewer and Fewer?**

Presenter: **Hillel Levine**, Boston University
Respondents: **Max Tickin**, George Washington
University

Lavey Derby, 92nd Street Y, New York

Delaware 4

**Jewish Identification and Affiliation: Future
Directions**

Presenter: **Egon Mayer**, Wexner Foundation
Respondents: **Richard Israel**, Jewish Community
Centers of Greater Boston

Deborah Dash Moore, Vassar College

9:30 p.m. Gettysburg 1-3
Social Event

*Jewish Dietary Laws strictly observed.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 26

8:00 a.m. Delaware Foyer
Continental Breakfast

8:30 a.m. Two Concurrent Sessions
Delaware 3

Tradition and Religious Practice in an Open Society

Presenter: **Deborah Lipstadt**, Brandeis-Bardin
Camp Institute

Respondents: **Samuel Heilman**, Queens College
Everett Gendler, Temple Emanuel, Lowell, Mass.

Delaware 4

Creativity and Community: The Jewish Artist's Experience

Presenter: **Marcia Falk**, University of Judaism

Respondents: **Richard Siegel**, National Foundation
For Jewish Culture

Omus Hirshbein, 92nd Street Y, New York

11:00 a.m. Two Concurrent Sessions

Delaware 3

Jewish Family Ethics in a Post-Halakhic Age

Presenter: **Martha Ackelsberg**, Smith College

Respondents: **Elliot Dorff**, University of Judaism
Esther Tickin, Psychotherapist

Delaware 4

The Synagogue: An Evolving Institution

Presenter: **Lawrence Kushner**, Temple Beth El,
Sudbury, Mass.

Respondents: **Burt Jacobson**, Kehillah, Berkeley,
California

Lee Friedlander, Reconstructionist Synagogue
of the North Shore, Roslyn Heights, New York

1:00 p.m. Gettysburg

Lunch

2:30 p.m. Two Concurrent Sessions

Delaware 3

Jewish Education: Crisis and Vision

Presenter: **Jonathan Woocher**, JESNA

Respondents: **Joseph Reimer**, Brandeis University
Kathy Green, Reconstructionist Rabbinical College

Delaware 4

Israeli and American Jewry: Drifting Apart?

Presenter: **Steven M. Cohen**, CUNY Graduate Center

Respondents: **Martin Raffel**, National Jewish
Community Relations Advisory Council

Arthur Samuelson, Harper & Row

5:45 p.m. Gettysburg 1-3

Dinner

7:30 p.m. Delaware 1 & 2
Public Session
Facing the Jewish Future
Presenters: **Philip Klutznick**, International
Communal Leader
Ira Silverman, American Jewish Committee

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27

8:15 a.m. Delaware Foyer
Continental Breakfast

9:00 a.m. Delaware 1 & 2
Plenum: Theology and Community
Presenter: **Arnold Eisen**, Stanford University
Respondent: **Jacob Staub**, Reconstructionist
Rabbinical College

THE CHALLENGE FOR RECONSTRUCTIONISTS

11:00 a.m. Delaware 1 & 2
An Agenda for the Future
Panel: **Joy Levitt**, Reconstructionist Rabbinical Assoc.
Roger Price, Federation of Reconstructionist
Congregations and Havurot
Arthur Green, Reconstructionist Rabbinical College

1:00 p.m. Gettysburg 1 & 2
Lunch

2:30 p.m. Two Concurrent Sessions
Education Delaware 3
Leaders: **Jonathan Woocher**, Jewish Educational
Services of North America,
Jeffrey Schein, Reconstructionist Rabbinical
College

Social Justice Delaware 4
Leaders: **David Gad-Harf**, Jewish Community
Relations Council, St. Louis, Mo.
Brian Walt, Congregation Beth Israel, Media, Pa.

4:30 p.m. Two Concurrent Sessions
Religious Practice Delaware 3
Leaders: **David Teutsch**, Reconstructionist
Rabbinical College
Nancy Fuchs-Kreimer, Reconstructionist
Rabbinical College

Israel Delaware 4
Leaders: **Allon Lehmann**, B'nai Israel,
Gainesville, Fla.
Mordechai Liebling, Federation of
Reconstructionist Congregations and Havurot

7:00 p.m. Gettysburg 1 & 2
Dinner

8:30 p.m. Delaware 1 & 2

Creating an Inclusive Community

Panel: **Sheila Weinberg**, Beth Am Israel, Penn Valley, Pa.,

Arnold Rachlis, Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation, Evanston, Ill.,

Burt Siegel, Jewish Community Relations Council, Philadelphia, Pa.

REGISTRATION

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Date of Arrival _____

Number of Persons Attending _____

The cost of the conference is \$150.00 per person (includes registration and meals: Sunday dinner; Monday breakfast, lunch and dinner; Tuesday breakfast, lunch and dinner) Hotel rooms are not included.

Conference registration is due with payment in U.S. dollars by **November 15, 1988.**

Conference cancellation policy:

- 100% rebate by November 15
- 50% rebate by December 1
- 25% rebate by December 15
- No rebate after December 15

Make checks payable to:

Reconstructionist Rabbinical College

Return conference registration form and check in RRC return envelope to:

Reconstructionist Rabbinical College
Church Road and Greenwood Avenue
Wyncote, PA 19095

Hotel registration goes directly to the Adam's Mark Hotel.

PLEASE COMPLETE OTHER SIDE OF FORM

JOSEPH REIMER

9/27/89

CONVERSATIONS WITH ARTHUR GREEN

Rabbi Green and I met during August and discussed the Commission. I called today to check in again.

Arthur's main concern is with pacing. He admits to being impatient and new to this process, but wonders why the pace feels slow-moving. As his colleague Prof. Twersky, Green believes reflection is for academics and action should be the mode for the Commission. He fully favors the Community action approach and would like to see us begin its implementation by setting up reasonable criteria by which sites could be selected. He continues to favor setting up a multiplicity of sites. He fears that if we delay starting implementation, the Commission will lose momentum. He does not have much interest in discussing the final report or research papers.

Rabbi Green will attend on October 23, and was honored to be asked to deliver the d'var Torah.

