



# THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

**MS-831: Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Foundation Records, 1980–2008.**

Series C: Council for Initiatives in Jewish Education (CIJE). 1988–2003.

Subseries 2: Board Members, Senior Policy Advisors, and Consultants, 1990–1996.

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Box  
28

Folder  
21

Pollack, Lester, 1990-1995.

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Lester Pollack  
*Lazard Freres & Company*  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
Suite 5050  
NY, NY *10020*  
212-332-5850

(Carol - New address & #.  
Pls. update all lists, etc.)

### LESTER POLLACK - BIOGRAPHY

Lester Pollack is a General Partner of Lazard Freres & Co.; Senior Managing Director of Corporate Partners, L.P., and Chief Executive Officer of Centre Partners, L.P., investment partnerships affiliated with Lazard Freres & Co.

Before joining Lazard, Mr. Pollack was a General Partner of Odyssey Partners. Prior to that he was Vice-Chairman and Co-Chief Operating Officer of United Brands Company from 1979 to 1981 and previously he was Executive Vice President of Loews Corporation, which he first joined in 1965. He also was a partner in a law firm in Manhattan from 1957 to 1965.

Mr. Pollack serves on the Board of Directors of Broad Inc., CNA Financial Corporation, Kaufman & Broad Home Corporation, The Leslie Fay Company, Loews Corporation, Paramount Communications, Inc., Parlex Corporation, Polaroid Corporation and Transco Energy Company.

He is a member of the Board of Trustees of New York University, the Chairman of the Budget Committee of the New York University Law Center Foundation and a member of The Board of Directors of The United Way of Tri-State, Inc.

Mr. Pollack is presently the President of the Jewish Community Centers Association of North America and Chairman of the International Affairs Committee of the Anti-Defamation League. He most recently was President of the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York and is Chairman of the Board of Associated YM-YWHAs of Greater New York, and Vice President and a member of the Executive Committee of the UJA/Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York.

Mr. Pollack was born in New York on August 14, 1933. He received a B.S. Degree from Brooklyn College in 1955 and an LLB Degree from New York University School of Law in 1957.

Mr. Pollack has lectured at the New York University Law School, the Centre for Study of Financial Institutions, the University of Pennsylvania and before the American Bar Association. He has received the Vanderbilt Medal and the Alumni Achievement Award from the New York University and the Scopus Award from The American Friends of Hebrew University. Mr. Pollack also co-authored "Collecting Claims and Enforcing Judgements" for the Practising Law Institute.

He is married to the former Geri Ruskin and has two children, Bruce and Wendy.



Memorandum

TO: Steering Committee/CIJE  
 FROM: Shulamith Elster *fe*  
 RE: Lester Pollack  
 DATE: January 20, 1992

This is being written following the recent Board meeting. We all had an opportunity to see Lester and many of us had the chance to chat with him about CIJE affairs.

I met with Lester at his office in New York when I was in the city earlier this month for the meeting of the Senior Policy Advisors. This was just before the materials were mailed to the Board members so much of my time with him was spent discussing the status of the Lead Communities Project.

Since I have been in touch with staff members of the JCCA, I wanted Lester to know about this aspect of my own work. As it happened this was the week of the JCCA Board meeting and Lester was looking forward to reporting to the Board on the ongoing relationship between the JCCA and the CIJE. The timing could not have been better!

I told him of my visit with Jane Perman and about how we plan to meet again specifically to talk about early childhood and family education programs within the Centers. Lester was enthusiastic about this as well as about the prospects of more activity in the area of Jewish education.

The new chairman of the board of the Jewish Theological Seminary, Gershon Kiest, is a personal friend of Lester's and they have been discussing how the two organizations might work together to strengthen the Jewish component of the JCC's.

I found Lester to be supportive of the CIJE, interested in continuing to foster the goals of the maximizing commission of the JCCA and genuinely pleased with our progress to date.

Footnote: I will follow-up with Lester now that the Board and annual meetings are over. I have no reason to believe that he was anything but pleased with the outcome of both.

*file - Pollack*

TO: Henry L. Zucker  
NAME  
DEPARTMENT/LOCATION

FROM: Virginia F. Levi  
NAME  
DEPARTMENT/LOCATION

DATE: 6/4/93  
REPLYING TO  
YOUR MEMO OF: \_\_\_\_\_

SUBJECT: JCCA Representation on CIJE Board

You mentioned to me that you thought that Gershon Kekst was succeeding Lester Pollack as president of JCCA and that we should consider who would best represent JCCA on the CIJE Board. I have checked with JCCA and learned that Lester Pollack remains president through May 1994 and that no successor has been named. I believe the meeting of Lester Pollack and Gershon Kekst with MLM is to cover some other issue. Bea Katcher tells me Mr. Kekst is not involved with JCCA.

*VFL*  
*Shanks.*  
*2-*



IN-TER-OFF-ICE CORRESPONDENCE





*Chair*

Morton Mandel

*Vice Chairs*

Billie Gold

Matthew Maryles

Lester Pollack

Maynard Wishner

June 22, 1994

*Honorary Chair*

Max Fisher

Mr. Lester Pollack  
Lazard Freres & Company  
One Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, NY 10020

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Daniel Bader

Mandell Berman

Charles Bronfman

Gerald Cohen

John Colman

Maurice Corson

Susan Crown

Jay Davis

Irwin Field

Charles Goodman

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Neil Greenbaum

Thomas Hausdorff

David Hirschhorn

Gershon Kekst

Henry Koschitsky

Mark Lainer

Norman Lamm

Marvin Lender

Norman Lipoff

Seymour Martin Lipset

Florence Melton

Melvin Merians

Charles Ratner

Esther Leah Ritz

Richard Scheuer

Ismar Schorsch

David Teutsch

Isadore Twersky

Bennett Yanowitz

Dear Lester:

We plan to invite Ann Kaufman to serve on the Board and Executive Committee of the Council for Initiatives in Jewish Education in her capacity as President of JCCA. In light of your serious interest in Jewish education and our prior discussions, I hope you will agree to remain on the Board. (We need you!)

The next meeting of the Board is being planned for October 5-6, 1994. Details will be forwarded to you later in the summer. Please hold the date.

Warm personal regards.

MORTON L. MANDEL -- Chair

cc: Arthur Rotman

*Executive Director*

Alan Hoffmann



*Chair*

Morton Mandel

January 12, 1995

*Vice Chairs*

Billie Gold  
Matthew Maryles  
Lester Pollack  
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Max Fisher

Lester Pollack  
Lazard Freres & Company  
One Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, NY 10020

*Board*

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Jay Davis  
Irwin Field  
Charles Goodman  
Alfred Gottschalk  
Neil Greenbaum  
Thomas Hausdorff  
David Hirschhorn  
Gershon Kekst  
Henry Koschitsky  
Mark Lainer  
Norman Lamm  
Marvin Lender  
Norman Lipoff  
Seymour Martin Lipset  
Florence Melton  
Melvin Merians  
Charles Ratner  
Esther Leah Ritz  
Richard Scheuer  
Ismar Schorsch  
David Teutsch  
Isadore Twersky  
Bennett Yanowitz

Dear Lester,

I am delighted that you have agreed to join the Steering Committee of CIJE and serve as chair of the Building the Profession Committee.

I know that you have already met with Alan Hoffmann and Gail Dorph and I would welcome an appointment to share my perspective on the work of the committee. The next meeting of the Steering Committee is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at CIJE's New York office, 15 East 26th Street, 10th Floor. Enclosed is a calendar of all steering committee, board, and board committee meetings scheduled for 1995. I hope that this will help you in your planning.

If you have any questions about schedule or anything else relating to CIJE, please feel free to raise them with Alan or Gail. I look forward to seeing you on 14th.

Sincerely,

MORTON L. MANDEL

*enclosure*

*Executive Director*

Alan Hoffmann





*Chair*

Morton Mandel

*Vice Chairs*

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Ann Kaufman  
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David Teutsch  
Isadore Twersky  
Bennett Yanowitz

*Executive Director*

Alan Hoffmann

January 13, 1995

Lester Pollack  
Lazard Freres & Company  
One Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, NY 10020

Dear Lester,

As I indicated to you in an earlier letter, CIJE has initiated a process to identify a successor to Alan Hoffmann, whose commitment to CIJE extends through August, 1996. The executive search firm, The Phillips Oppenheim Group, has been retained for this purpose. I know they have been in touch with you and thank you for the time you have already given to this effort.

The task of selecting a chief executive for any organization is one of the most important contributions lay leaders are called upon to do, in my judgement. The CIJE steering committee is the lay group best qualified to make this initial decision. I would, therefore, like to ask you to serve as a member of the search committee together with Esther Leah Ritz, John Colman, Chuck Ratner, and myself.

I am aware that this is an additional demand on your time, and we will try to hold meetings in conjunction with steering and board meetings. We plan to end the February 14 Steering Committee meeting at 2:30 p.m. and pull together the search committee from 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Our meetings for the day will conclude at 3:30 p.m., as originally planned.

MORTON L. MANDEL - Chair