



UNITED STATES COMMISSION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF AMERICA'S HERITAGE ABROAD

ISSUE ONE | SPRING 2023

FROM THE CHAIR

1	FROM THE CHAIR	Contents
2	MISSION MOMENTS	
3	NEW WEBSITE & ONLINE DONATIONS	
4	MEMBER SPOTLIGHT	



[DONATE](#)

Improving our Infrastructure Expanding our Footprint Magnifying our Mission

When I arrived at the Commission over a year ago, I was immediately struck by the heartfelt commitment our Members bring to this work.

Many Commission Members have served for multiple terms, having worked on heritage and cultural issues in their everyday lives for years. It was instantly clear to me that despite more than 75 years since the Holocaust, there remains an urgent need to honor those who were massacred so that their humanity is forever remembered, their memory is never lost and the past atrocities are never forgotten or distorted. Through our valued partners here in the US and around the globe, we are constantly hearing of revered locations in need of repair, renovation and restoration; allowing our important work to continue to preserve, protect and defend heritage sites and cemeteries across Europe. In 2023, our commitment to the mission of the U.S. Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad is steadfast and unmovable.

In order for us to achieve our goals, it was abundantly clear that the Commission needed to come into the 21st century and modernize our project awareness and donation platform. I am proud to share that the new website and online option for donating is finally here!

This enhanced fundraising model improves our capacity to take on more diverse projects that fall within our legislative purview and will allow us to continue to pay tribute to the heritage of all Americans. I'm sure you agree that diversifying our projects while staying steadfast in our commitments will only broaden the recognition of the Commission to help us enhance and fulfill our purpose and mission. I strongly believe that President Biden selected me for this position for my strategic fundraising prowess, and today more than ever, I am ready to take on this challenge. I am so proud of where we are right now! Together we will make the commission sustainable for generations to come.

"THE HERITAGE OF THE PAST IS THE SEED THAT BRINGS FORTH THE HARVEST OF THE FUTURE." ~WENDELL PHILLIPS



MISSION MOMENTS

A tribute to Harriet Rotter...

The Commission was immensely saddened to learn of the passing of long-time Commission Member Harriet Rotter on December 23, 2022.

Harriet was appointed to the Commission in 2003. During her tenure she supported and led numerous projects including several large initiatives such as restoring a large Jewish cemetery in Vilnius, Lithuania and the installation of a Holocaust memorial in Bryansk with the Russian Jewish Congress.

Her fellow Commission Members remember her for her kindness and dedication to the work of the Commission. In addition to her commitment to the Commission, Harriet was a volunteer and public servant for most of her life. Harriet served on the board of Central Michigan University from 1993-2000 and the board of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts from 2002-2008.

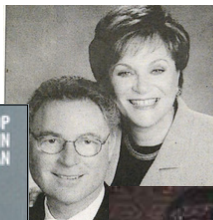


She was well-known as one of the most sought out family law attorneys in the metropolitan Detroit area.

Harriet died at the age of 83, less than a year following the death of her beloved husband of 63 years, Dr. Norman Rotter.

Harriet is survived by a sister, Judith (Richard) Komer; brother, Dr. Jeffrey (Meredith Weston) Band; three sons, Dr. Steven (Lisa) Rotter, Michael (Tara) Rotter, and David (Holly) Rotter; five grandchildren, Dr. Jacob (Dr. Michelle Sheyman) Rotter, Maxwell (Hannah) Rotter, Daniel Rotter, Mitchell Rotter, and Jack Henry Lowenstein; and many nieces and nephews.

It is suggested that those who wish to further honor the memory of Harriet Rotter may do so by making a contribution to: Wayne State University - Memorial Gifts for Harriet and Norman J. Rotter or to the charity of the donor's choice.



COMMISSION MEMBERS

Starlet "Star" Jones Lugo, Chair

Nancy Berman

Herbert Block

Abba Cohen

Tyrone Fahner

Emil Fish

Martin Gold

Jon Greenwald

Nicole Isaac

Nancy K. Kaufman

Harley Lippman

Michael Lozman

Michael Marquardt

Elizabeth Naftali

Maureen C. Pikarski

Jonathan Rikoon

Roselyne Swig

Hershel Wein

Lesley Weiss





NEW WEBSITE & ONLINE DONATIONS

Visit the Commission's new and improved website at www.heritageabroad.gov

Since the Commission was created in 1985, we have raised funds to support hundreds of projects that preserve and protect sites important to the heritage of Americans in eastern and central Europe. However, until recently, the only way to donate to a project was to mail a check to the Commission.

As part of the Commission's efforts to improve our infrastructure, we created a new website which launched on the one year anniversary of the appointment of Star Jones as Chair of the Commission. While the new website is still a work in progress, it features a donation portal which will allow the Commission to more effectively and efficiently support our projects overseas with enhanced funding capabilities.

The Commission will utilize social media platforms to raise awareness and encourage people across the country to donate in support of these important projects.

We are currently engaged in the development of over twenty projects and within the next few weeks more details of each will post on our new website.

Supporters of the Commission's work will be able to donate to individual projects, to one or more of our purview country funds, or to our global fund!

DONATE

MORE EFFECTIVE FUNDRAISING MEANS MORE PROJECT SUPPORT!

Projects in the works...

Commission staff are actively engaged in project development with implementing partners in the following countries: *Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia, Ukraine and Turkey!*

Where we work...

The Commission has authority to work in the following 29 countries: *Albania, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Kosovo, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Turkey and Ukraine.*

Commission Member Spotlight



LESLEY WEISS
Commission Member

Lesley Weiss is Deputy Director of the National Coalition Supporting Eurasian Jewry (NCSEJ). In this role, she coordinates democracy initiatives, community education and outreach efforts, and promotes advocacy on behalf of Jewish communities in Eastern Europe and Eurasia.

FOLLOW US



DONATE

