

# The Planned Giving Newsletter of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

# Generations



Legacy of Light Guardians Amy and Andrew Cohn

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## Acting Now to Ensure the Future for Our Children

When Amy and Andrew Cohn first visited the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 1995, they had no idea what an important part of their lives it would become. Their memories of that inaugural visit are still very sharp. “We were struck by the number and diversity of the visitors,” says Amy. Her husband adds, “I remember that people were visibly moved by what they were seeing. They would just be transfixed at certain places of the Permanent Exhibition.”

The Cohns did not lose any family members during the Holocaust, and living nearly 2,500 miles away in Phoenix, Arizona, they might easily have chosen to support an organization closer to home. Yet when their friends, Museum Founders Bill and Susan Levine, invited them to a dinner in 2005 to discuss the work of the Museum, they found themselves inspired by the Museum’s mission of Holocaust remembrance and education.

The Museum is uniquely positioned to educate others, according to the Cohns, because of its comprehensive collections, professional approach to disseminating information, and international reach, including through its multilingual website.

The couple’s growing passion for the Museum coincided with what their children were learning in school about the genocide then taking place in the Darfur region of Sudan. “Our children were educating us about Darfur, and we in turn were able to talk with them about the Holocaust and the Museum’s role in inspiring youth and the leaders of tomorrow to confront hatred and genocide,” recalls Andrew.

As their commitment to the Museum grew, Amy and Andrew started to host events in their home, co-chaired the 2011 Phoenix Tribute Dinner, and, undeterred by their distance from Washington, have visited the Museum a dozen times through the years.

They also earned a special place in the hearts of Museum staff through their hospitality and amazing homemade hamantaschen, which they provide upon request.

Eager to provide more than annual support to the Museum, Amy and Andrew spoke to their children, Alexa (22) and Matthew (20), about establishing a deferred legacy gift. Together, they decided to make the Museum a beneficiary of a life insurance policy with the proceeds directed towards the Museum’s Endowment Fund—demonstrating their dedication to securing the permanence of Holocaust memory, relevance, and understanding. “By supporting the Museum in this way, we’re ensuring the future for our children and making a better world,” says Amy.

Now, as Legacy of Light Guardian Founders, the Cohns are helping the Museum meet both the challenges and the opportunities that lie ahead.

## From the Director of Planned Giving

The remainder of 2012 promises to be important for several reasons. In addition to elections this fall, a number of key tax law changes are scheduled to take place on January 1, 2013. As a result, this can be an especially critical time to review one's financial affairs.

While the recession of 2007-09 has officially ended, much uncertainty remains on the economic front. Stock market values have recovered, but historically low interest rates continue to restrict income for many.

In this issue of *Generations*, we explore a number of ways to provide for your future economic security and that of your loved ones, while providing a future legacy to assure the continued vitality of the Museum.

For example, you may be interested in the Museum's charitable gift annuity program. This popular gift opportunity can provide a source of additional income either now or in later years. See page 3 for ways to include gift annuities in your retirement planning.

If you have purchased life insurance policies to assure future economic security for your loved ones, you may want to consider how life insurance can also be used to make significant charitable gifts as well.

There are likely to be changes to federal estate and gift tax laws this fall or at the beginning of next year, so now may be an excellent time to review your insurance coverage and other aspects of your long-range financial planning.

We will be pleased to offer additional information about any of the concepts presented here upon request with no obligation.

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George E. Hellman

## 20th Anniversary Legacy Challenge Announced

The Museum is pleased to announce that in honor of our 20th anniversary in 2013, two generous supporters have stepped forward to challenge each of us to make safeguarding truth for future generations our personal legacy. Through the establishment of their own planned gift of up to \$1 million, the anonymous challenge donors will **match up to 10% of each new planned gift to the Museum's endowment**, with a maximum of \$25,000 per gift. The 20th Anniversary Legacy Challenge is in effect until April 30, 2013.

"We are extremely grateful to these donors for their commitment to securing the Museum's future through their 20th Anniversary Legacy Challenge," says Diane Wohl, National Chair of the Museum's Legacy of Light Society. "Their generosity and dedication today will help to ensure the permanence of Holocaust memory and understanding tomorrow."

There are a variety of ways to participate in the Legacy Challenge:

- Name the Museum's endowment in your will.
- Designate the Museum's endowment as a beneficiary of your retirement plan assets.
- Donate a life insurance policy you no longer need.
- Establish a Charitable Gift Annuity that provides you and/or a loved one with income for life.

Thanks to the Legacy Challenge, a planned gift to secure the Museum's future—a gift that costs nothing today or provides income for life—has never had greater value. To learn more, please contact George Hellman, JD, at 202.488.6591 or ghellman@ushmm.org.



## The Planned Giving Team

The Museum's Planned Giving team is a group of professionals who are dedicated to helping secure the Museum's future. For more information on how we can help you achieve your philanthropic goals, please contact your regional officer listed below.

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## In Memoriam

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum mourns the passing of the following Legacy of Light Society members:

Yona Dickmann	Peter Kovanic	Shirley Rothfeld
Rosina Karako-Smeraldi	Ruth Numkin	Blanche Zwern



**PLEASE JOIN ME** for this special day of behind-the-scenes programming at the Museum sponsored by the Legacy of Light Society. I promise it will be a day to remember!  
—Diane Wohl, National Chair of the Legacy of Light Society

## SAVE THE DATE **Monday, October 29, 2012**

### A Day at the Museum

what you do matters

- Behind the scenes look at the Museum's innovative approaches to teaching the Holocaust in multi-faith settings;
- Lectures and roundtable discussions with educators, curators, conservators, and scholars-in-residence; and
- The opportunity to conduct family research at the Museum's Holocaust Survivors and Victims Resource Center.

Cost is \$50 per person, lunch included. For more information, please contact Naomi Katz at 202.488.2681 or [nkatz@usbmm.org](mailto:nkatz@usbmm.org), or Celeste Z. Maier at 202.488.2634 or [cmaier@usbmm.org](mailto:cmaier@usbmm.org).



2011 Day at the Museum participants tour *State of Deception: The Power of Nazi Propaganda* with Museum historian Dr. Ann Millin. Through digital and mobile technology, including an interactive cell phone tour, the Museum seeks to make the exhibition accessible to millions worldwide.

## Gifts that Supplement Your Retirement Income

The Museum's gift annuity program offers a way for you to make gifts today while arranging for a dependable source of income that you will start to receive at a future date you determine.

See the chart at right for examples of rates you would receive depending on the age you make your gift and the time payments begin.

Because a portion of your gift annuity will be used to support the Museum's endowment in the future, you are entitled to deduct a portion of the amount used to fund your gift annuity in the tax year that you establish it. And of course you have the satisfaction of knowing your gift will help secure the Museum's future.

If you fund a gift annuity using securities that have increased in value but yield little income, your payments will be based on the full value of the securities while no capital gains tax is due at the time the gift is funded.

In addition, part of each payment you receive will be completely free of income tax for a period of time equal to your life expectancy—and there will generally be no estate tax due on your gift annuity.

Many Museum donors have been so pleased with their first Museum gift annuity that they have established additional ones. This can be a practical way to make gifts that offer immediate tax savings while increasing your income in retirement years. Consider joining the many supporters of the Museum who have chosen to make meaningful gifts to the Museum's endowment in a very special way. To learn more about how you can enjoy the benefits of a Museum gift annuity, please return the attached card or contact Naomi Katz, JD, Associate Director of Planned Giving, at 202.488.2681 or [nkatz@ushmm.org](mailto:nkatz@ushmm.org).

### Payment Rate if You Decide to Defer Your Payments

Age Today	Number of years deferred*		
	5	7	9
60	5.5%	6.0%	6.6%
65	5.9%	6.7%	7.5%
70	6.8%	7.7%	8.7%

\*Rates shown are for single life annuities. Rates for two persons are slightly lower.

For illustrative purposes only. Check with us for a personalized illustration at no obligation.

Rates current as of June 2012.

# Danish Rescue Efforts: A New Resource

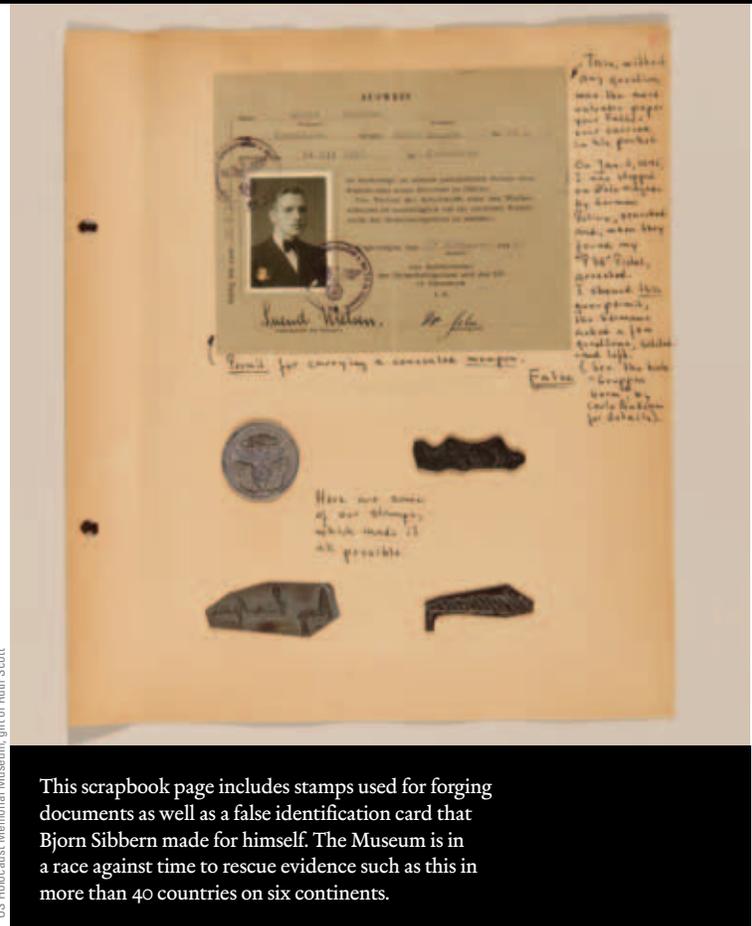
In describing their meticulously compiled five-volume scrapbook documenting life in wartime Denmark, Bjorn and Tove Sibbern wrote, “It will show brief glimpses from the war years in Denmark, as seen with the eyes of average people.” More than 200 pages, this new accession to the Museum’s collection offers much more.

Beginning with the German invasion on April 9, 1940, and comprising over 1,000 individual pieces of paper evidence, the scrapbook offers a near-daily account of Danish life under Nazi occupation.

The scrapbook includes anti-Jewish signs that Bjorn Sibbern explains he and others quickly ripped down, as well as both false identification cards he used to move around Copenhagen and elsewhere freely, and different kinds of buttons worn by members of the resistance—each becoming more subtle to avoid detection. The scrapbook in this way provides a range of artifacts representing specific actions taken by the Danes to erode German authority.

The Museum has long owned one of the boats used to clandestinely ferry Danish Jews to safety in Sweden; the Sibberns’ scrapbook adds another layer of detail to our understanding of the complex issue of Danish resistance. Judy Cohen, director of the Museum’s Photographic Reference Collection, was responsible for the acquisition of the scrapbook. She notes, “Until now, the Museum has had a paucity of artifacts documenting the German occupation of Denmark. The new scrapbook fills this previous gap in our collection. It documents early Danish collaboration with the Nazis, the growth of the underground and sabotage efforts, and the unique role played by the police to facilitate both rescue and resistance.”

In September and October 1943, Denmark saved the vast majority of its Jews from deportation to concentration camps. The Sibberns went to great lengths to document this difficult time and later



US Holocaust Memorial Museum, gift of Ruth Scott

This scrapbook page includes stamps used for forging documents as well as a false identification card that Bjorn Sibbern made for himself. The Museum is in a race against time to rescue evidence such as this in more than 40 countries on six continents.

entrusted the completed set to Ruth and Dell Scott of California, who felt that the Museum was the best place to preserve the scrapbook.

Filling critical gaps in the Museum’s collections will enable us to examine this history from every perspective and continue to teach it with power and authenticity. Evidence such as this scrapbook will be the sole witness to the Holocaust when the survivors are no longer at our side. Intensifying our efforts now to rescue these extraordinary documents will ensure we can safeguard truth for future generations. That is what we owe to those we memorialize.

## Leave a Bequest for Future Generations

The most powerful way you can help secure the Museum’s ability to meet global challenges in an uncertain future is through an unrestricted gift to the Museum’s endowment. If you are considering including the Museum in your will or living trust, you may want to provide your attorney with the language to the right.

Should you or your attorney have any questions, please contact a member of our Planned Giving team (see page 2). We are always happy to assist in any way we can.

“I [Name] hereby give, devise and bequeath [the sum of \$ (dollar amount)] [(percentage) % of my residuary estate] to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (Federal Employer Identification Number 52-1309391), an independent establishment of the United States government, located at 100 Raoul Wallenberg Place, SW, Washington, DC 20024-2126, to be used by it in support of its Permanent Endowment Fund, an unrestricted permanent real endowment fund, or its successor fund, if any.”

## Survivor Honored by Albanian Prime Minister

Although she was only eight years old at the time, Museum volunteer and staff member Johanna Neumann vividly remembers the events of *Kristallnacht* in November 1938. She and her family escaped soon after from Germany to Albania, where they remained throughout the war, moving from one town to another a total of 17 times. During the German occupation of 1943-44, they were hidden by an Albanian Muslim family. In 1945, Johanna and her family stayed at a displaced persons camp in Italy before they were able to immigrate to the United States.

Johanna was recently honored by the Albanian government for her efforts to have her rescuers recognized as Righteous Among the Nations by Yad Vashem. In a moving ceremony at the Museum on April 26, 2012, Prime Minister of Albania, Dr. Sali Berisha, congratulated Johanna for becoming “one of the best ambassadors of the moral code of my country.”

A Museum volunteer since 1990, Johanna also works in the Museum’s Office of Development, where she encourages individuals to make legacy gifts.



Prime Minister of Albania Dr. Sali Berisha presents Johanna Neumann with a certificate recognizing her efforts to have her rescuers honored as Righteous Among the Nations.

## WHAT KIND OF WORLD WILL FUTURE GENERATIONS INHERIT?



The Holocaust compels us to ask that question... and above all, **TO ACT ON IT.** We are proud to recognize as Legacy of Light Guardians supporters who have made **SAFEGUARDING TRUTH** their personal legacy through a deferred or outright gift to the Museum’s endowment. To learn more, please call George E. Hellman, JD, at 202.488.6591 or visit [ushmm.org/endowment](http://ushmm.org/endowment).

# Legacy of Light **GUARDIANS**

Portrait of two brothers in the Kovno ghetto taken shortly before their round-up in the March 1944 “Children’s Action.”

Photo: US Holocaust Memorial Museum Courtesy of Shraga Wainer. Photo by George Kadish.

## Museum Exhibitions around the Country

**Fighting the Fires of Hate: America and the Nazi Book Burnings**

### Beckley, West Virginia

Raleigh County Public Library  
Through June 10, 2012

### North Little Rock, Arkansas

William F. Laman Public Library  
August 31-October 28, 2012

### Nazi Persecution of Homosexuals 1933-1945

#### Rochester, New York

Jewish Community Center of Greater Rochester  
May 23-July 22, 2012

#### Palm Beach County-Lake Worth, Florida

Compass Community Center  
November 27, 2012-January 27, 2013

For a complete listing of all traveling exhibitions, visit [ushmm.org](http://ushmm.org).

## Upcoming Events to Celebrate the Museum's 20th Anniversary

To mark its 20th anniversary, the Museum will host a series of programs nationwide to honor the victims and survivors, recognize the Museum's first two decades of success, and inspire new generations to carry the "torch of remembrance" into the future.

We hope you can join us. For more information, please contact Celeste Z. Maier at 202.488.2634 or [cmaier@ushmm.org](mailto:cmaier@ushmm.org).

**Los Angeles, California**

November 8, 2012

**Boca Raton, Florida**

December 9, 2012

**New York, New York**

March 3, 2013

**Washington, DC**

April 28-29, 2013

**Chicago, Illinois**

June 9, 2013

Legacy of Light Society members in South Florida display the certificates of appreciation they received at a Donor Appreciation tea held on April 1, 2012, in the home of Arlene Herson, the Museum's South Florida Regional Legacy of Light Chair. From left to right standing: Rosalyn August, Sue Shapiro, Arlene Perlman, Arlene Herson, Rabbi Marc Liebhaber, Eve Barak. From left to right seated: Marilyn and Kurt L. Wallach, Nancy and Barry Dershaw, Barbara Byer.



Photo: Jeffrey Tholl.

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# SAFEGUARDING TRUTH FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

The **Legacy of Light Society** recognizes individuals who have made a commitment to secure the Museum's future and its timeless cause by including the Museum in their estate plans. In addition, individuals who direct any type of gift to the Museum's endowment are recognized as **Legacy of Light Guardians**. Make a bequest or other gift today to the Museum's endowment, and let your commitment live forever.

**[ ] YES, I'm ready to safeguard truth for future generations.** I would like to receive more information about the Museum's endowment and how I can secure the future impact of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum with a gift that can also help enhance my financial security today.

I would also like to receive complimentary materials about:

- Giving Through Your Will
- Giving Through Charitable Lead Trusts
- Giving Through Life Insurance
- Legacy Giving Through My Family Foundation
- Giving Through Gift Annuities

Please send me payment and tax benefit information based on the following amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ and the birthdate(s) \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ (second individual optional). I would like to defer my payments until I reach age \_\_\_\_.

- [ ]** I have already included the Museum in my will or other estate plans.
- [ ]** Please enroll me as a member of the **Legacy of Light Society** and send me information about the benefits of being a **Legacy of Light Guardian**.
- [ ]** I would consider including the Museum in my estate plans.
- [ ]** I would like to learn more about the 20th Anniversary Legacy Challenge and how my planned gift can be matched.
- [ ]** I am interested in making a contribution to the Museum's Annual Fund. Please contact me.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail (optional)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone (optional)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zip

*This information will be kept strictly confidential.*

*The Museum's Federal Employer Identification Number is 52-1309391*

**United States Holocaust Memorial Museum**  
Planned Giving  
100 Raoul Wallenberg Place, SW  
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202.488.6591

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Who will be at their side tomorrow?  
**THROUGH YOUR LEGACY GIFT  
TO THE MUSEUM, YOU WILL.**

Photo: Thomas Arledge

**EVERY WILL MATTERS. HAVE YOU PUT THE MUSEUM IN YOURS?**