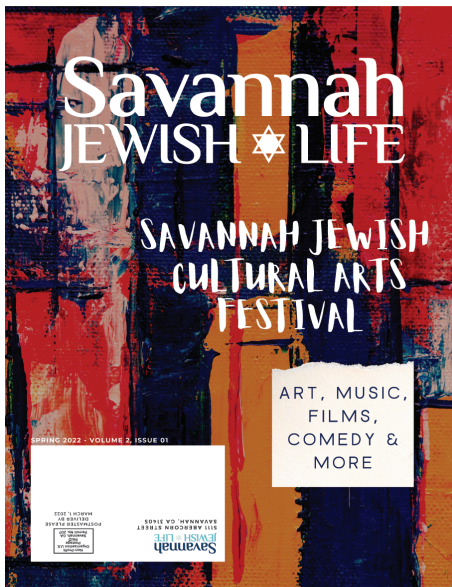


Savannah JEWISH LIFE

Savannah Jewish Life is a high-quality glossy quarterly magazine published by the Savannah Jewish Federation. It reaches over 1,800 Savannah area households.



SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Spring Issue

March, April & May
Deadline: February 1

Fall Issue

September, October & November
Deadline: August 1

Summer Issue

June, July & August
Deadline: May 1

Winter Issue

December, January & February
Deadline: November 1

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Title of Article

Author's Name

When Jews began immigrating to America from Europe in great numbers at the end of the 19th Century, most stayed in the New York City area where they found themselves living in overcrowded, filthy and disease-ridden tenements. Limited to working in hazardous sweatshops and factories. They were faced with much of the same antisemitism that prevented them from prospering financially, availing themselves of decent schooling and medical care, borrowing money and otherwise enabling themselves to reach the American Dream they had expected when escaping the oppression, they had faced in their prior lives abroad.

In 1900, the leaders of the Jewish community in New York City founded the Workmen's Circle (later the B'nai B'rith) as a "mutual aid society." They established schools and camps for children and adults, operated a renowned medical facility for their members' care, bought tracts of land for cemeteries, and ran credit unions for their members. Eventually, similar credit unions sprang up all over the country to support Jews in their struggle to access capital for business financing or for the purchase of a home.

Workmen's Circle in Savannah began in the early 1909 when a group of Jewish businessmen decided to form Branch 185, a mutual aid organization to assist Jewish immigrants with their social and financial needs. It was four decades later that a branch of the Credit Union made its way to Savannah. Following the practices of the original founders in New York, loans were provided at "fair and reasonable" rates to local businessmen and other individuals who were unable to obtain such financing elsewhere. On February 6, 1950, the local branch was officially chartered by local Jewish businessmen: a team consisting of Harry Dunn, Jacob Dunn, Sam Hirsch, Hyman Hoffman, Sidney Patrowsky, Nathan Passik, William Scheer, and Harry Applebaum, and began serving those who lived and worked in Chatham County.

According to the history of this group, the original Mission stated as "People Helping People" still exists today. Research has revealed that this mission "is accomplished through providing high dividends, quality service and competitive loan rates offered to its members." The Credit Union strongly encourages families of existing members as well as all other residents to join in order to continue its strength and prosperity and to aid the Jewish community.

While professionally managed, WCCU is unique in that it's Board of Directors is made up entirely of volunteers who provide their time and acumen for the benefit of others in the community. They have volunteered countless hours on the Audit, Loan, and Marketing Committees, some of which have been almost three decades including Harold Yellin (Board Chair), Fred Rabban (Board Secretary), Michael Kooden, Stephen Greenberg, Lloyd Goodman, Paul Kulberth, Michael Karpf, Gale Hirsch, Frank Slotin, and Matthew Allan.

Through prudent investment, sage loan policies, and "old-time" relationship-building, WCCU has been extraordinarily successful for over seven decades. Everyone is also encouraged to check out the wide array of available products including, but not limited to, share certificates, money markets, home equity lines of credit and first mortgages with both fixed and variable interest rates. The Credit Union is located at 527 Stephenson Avenue, Suite 1, Savannah. They can also be reached at 912.365.9225, or online at workmenscirclecu.com.

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