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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
August 2, 2010

**Alpharetta Historical Society Monthly Meeting  
Presents Selma Merbaum Speaking on Jews and the Civil War  
August 19, 2010 at 7:30pm  
Mansell House & Gardens**

The Alpharetta Historical Society (AHS) is a non-profit 501(c) (3) organization governed by the State of Georgia. It operates under a Board of Directors consisting of elected trustees, officers, and standing committee chairpersons. The society has been in existence for 31 years.

Selma Merbaum, a member of the Alpharetta Historical Society, will speak to the members about Jews and the Civil War at the next general membership meeting. The meeting will be held on Thursday, August 19, 2010 at 7:30pm at Mansell House & Gardens, 1835 Old Milton Parkway, Alpharetta, GA 30009.

Born and raised in New York City, Selma and her husband of 51 years, Isidore Merbaum, migrated from the Big Apple to Atlanta in 1994 to join their son and his family. Selma graduated from Queens College in 1979 with a Bachelor's degree in History, where her passion for the history of the Jewish Community developed. After graduation, Selma continued to take post-graduate courses as well as study with her rabbis to absorb knowledge about the Jewish Community – a community which has and continues to contribute to the growth and expansion of America.

While there have been thousands of books and articles written about the Civil War, only a few concentrated solely on the role of the Jewish Community during that time. Selma has focused her studies on three books which will represent her presentation to the membership: Morris Schappes' *A Documentary History of the Jews in the United States, 1654-1875*; Dr. Bertram Korn's *American Jewry and Civil War*; and Robert Rosen's *The Jewish Confederates*.

While Selma is a speaker on several topics from American Jewish History, she doesn't claim to be a historian or a scholar, but simply a woman with a hobby she enjoys sharing with others.

The Mansell House & Gardens, a Special Events Facility, is headquarters for the Alpharetta Historical Society, Inc. Come join us and experience the ambiance of a bygone era amidst flowers and furnishings of this circa 1910 home . . . a special place for families to celebrate the

important events of life such as Birth, Marriages, Graduations, Reunions, Showers, Anniversaries, Birthdays, Christenings, and more.

If anyone would like more information on becoming a member of the Alpharetta Historical Society, please contact Connie Mashburn at 770-265-3862 or by email at [conmash@earthlink.net](mailto:conmash@earthlink.net)

The motto for the Alpharetta Historical Society is to “Preserve the Past, in the Present, for the Future”, helping inspire families, young and old, to find their passion through the life of yesteryear by maintaining and sharing its collections, preservation and dissemination of accurate historical information through activities and workshops.

### **Alpharetta Convention and Visitors Bureau**

The Alpharetta Convention and Visitors Bureau serves as the destination marketing arm for the City, promoting tourism to Alpharetta, Georgia, and attracting visitors to all 23 of Alpharetta’s upscale and modern hotels. Visit [www.awesomealpharetta.com](http://www.awesomealpharetta.com) for more information.