



# תְּקוּוֹתֵינוּ TIKVATENU



ISRAEL CENTER OF CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM

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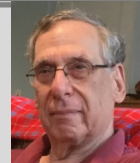
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## LET OUR FAMILY WELCOME YOURS



### MESSAGE FROM OUR CO-PRESIDENTS

## DAVID SCHWARTZ AND SAM WEISS



Fellow Congregants,

We hope you've enjoyed the summer and are looking forward to the start of the new year. The synagogue calendar is already filling with a full range of religious, educational, cultural and social events, but first, and foremost, we are eagerly expecting the imminent arrival of Rabbi Hillel Lavery-Yisraeli as ICCJ's new spiritual leader. Rabbi Hillel, as you all know, emerged as the near unanimous choice of the congregation, after a nearly year-long search, to replace Rabbi Moshe Saks, who has relocated to Syracuse, N.Y. Rabbi Hillel, is arriving from Hamilton, Ontario, where he served for the last seven years at Beth David Synagogue. He arrives in Queens with his wife, Yonah, who is both a rabbi and a scribe, and their nine-year-old son Hisda. It's with great pleasure that we welcome the Rabbi and his family into the ICCJ community.

Happily, Rabbi Hillel will be here in plenty of time to lead Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services. Tickets for the High Holidays are now on sale and we are planning for a good turnout, based on a survey taken a few weeks ago. With Rabbi Hillel's arrival, we anticipate this opportunity for more of you to meet him in person. As has been the case in the last three years, our High Holiday planning is being guided by concern over the continuing threat of Covid, and we want to assure the congregation that the membership's health and safety are always our first concern.

This year, we wish to make a special plea for donations to the Henri Gros Outreach Fund. Most, if not all, of you know the fund performs an outstanding mitzvah by providing free meals to congregants most in need, particularly the sick and those sitting shiva. The fund is self-sustaining, meaning that it depends on the generous contributions of the membership. Increasing usage and inflationary costs have begun to whittle down the fund's reserves. We need your support to ensure the fund continues to provide its vital act of loving kindness for many years to come.

Finally, of course, both of us, together with Doreen, Clarissa and our children, wish all of you--our spiritual community -- a very happy, joyous and healthy new year.

L'Shana Tova

David and Sam

## IN MEMORIAM: DR. ALAN MICHAEL AARONSON



By definition, a Renaissance man is one who is knowledgeable or proficient in a variety of fields. In particular, it refers to a person who excels in science and mathematical fields, as well as in the humanities. According to Webster's entry, no one better personified such an individual

than our beloved Alan Aaronson.

Alan's extensive intellectual capabilities enabled him to tackle any topic or task, and become its master. No where was this more evident than in the unsung myriad of responsibilities he bore at Israel Center of Conservative Judaism. In fulfilling his duties as the synagogue's Financial Secretary and/or Treasurer, Alan made sure that our religious home was on sound fiscal footing and the investment of our funds maximized the returns into the shul's coffers.

As a member of the High Holiday Committee, he made sure that the chairs in the ballroom were placed with utmost exactitude so that the best leg room allowance was afforded the congregants in these seats. With the same precision, he oversaw the creation of the seating charts and the printing of the holiday tickets. As ICCJ's fire marshal, he was ever vigilant about the inspection of the building's extinguishers and made sure everything was up to code so that the safety of our congregation was never jeopardized.

Numerous times he served on contract negotiation committees with our clergy so that the most equitable and amenable agreements were achieved. If there were any problems at ICCJ, Alan could be relied upon to provide sage advice and offer rational, practical, and readily employable solutions.

Although Alan was said to be a confirmed atheist, his devotion to ICCJ belied this statement. A regular Sabbath and holiday attendee, in a pinch he could be called upon to attend our in-person 6:30 AM minyans, donning tefillin and wearing a tallit, and also evening services to help fulfill the ten-person complement. He could expound on points of Torah and prayer as well as any devotee of the faith, and no doubt express himself much more articulately and on a higher intellectual plane.

By profession Alan was a chemist, and he had earned a doctorate in the field. Over his career, he garnered

some thirty-four patents, many of which dealt with chemicals devised to aid in flame retardancy.

Despite these accomplishments, Alan's true calling was as a teacher, not necessarily in a classroom, but in life. He often brought perspective to light, trying to broaden narrow-minded thought so that all sides of an issue would be examined and an accurate plan of action could be initiated which would be the most beneficial. Some would say that Alan was argumentative, but in actuality he was a beacon who sought to enlighten others. By sometimes playing devil's advocate, he brought out the best in others, encouraging them to use their intellect and not just their emotions in decision-making.

Alan was one of four siblings, losing his father at the tender age of twelve. He then became a caretaker and mentor to his younger brother, Bob, and an invaluable help to his widowed mother. Alan had a vivid imagination and a definite literary bent, and his family thought he would become a writer. However, his attendance at Stuyvesant, the premiere science and math high school in the city, fostered his scientific leanings and impacted upon his eventual pursuit of a career in chemistry.

Another decision made as a teenager turned out to be the wisest one of Alan's life. While working as a Young Judea youth leader he encountered a lovely teen who matched him in wit and intelligence. Her name was Selma and it was her winning personality which won Alan's heart. It was upon this foundation that they built a life together of more than sixty years. They welcomed their three children, Gary, Aliza, and Ira into a household where their dreams were nurtured, their endeavors were praised and their horizons broadened to the fullest. This commitment extended to their many nieces and nephews. The love and devotion of Alan and Selma expanded exponentially when their grandchildren arrived. The younger generation had the same good fortune as their parents to have Alan and Selma as an integral part of their upbringing.

Over the decades those at ICCJ and their predecessors at Israel Center of Hillcrest Manor benefitted greatly from Alan's commitment, genuineness, integrity, and his progressive outlook. When the need to save two floundering Conservative synagogues was brought to ICHM's door, Alan was in the forefront for welcoming these shuls. When egalitarianism was part of the merge, Alan didn't think twice that the future of all rested upon the equality of the genders in synagogue life.

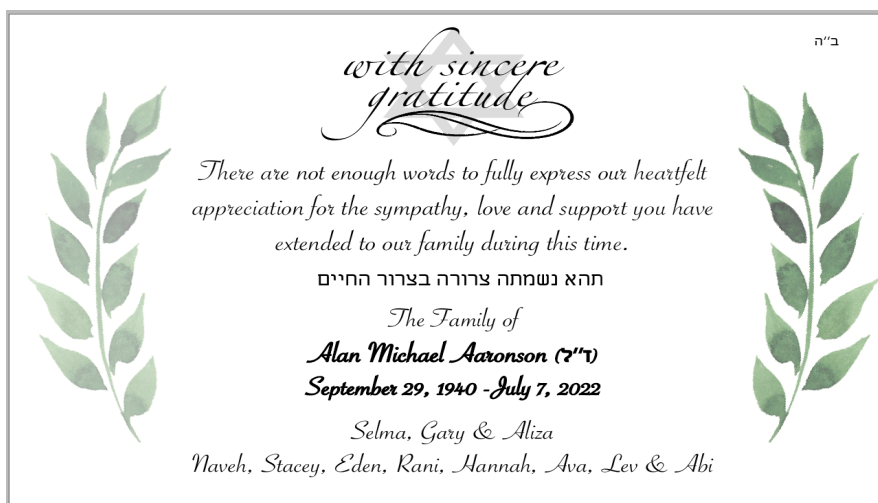
When illness befell Alan seven years ago, he faced it

*continue on page 3*

stoically and with determination, not flagging in his commitment to either of his families. He had good days and not so good days, but he never complained, optimistically espousing the view, "We'll get through this." And for so long he did. Rabbi Dan Ornstein, son of Sheila and Shelly, and Alan and Selma's nephew, related that before his passing, Alan recognized himself that Olam Ha-Ba was closer rather than farther away and he was ready.

For the wonderful Aaronson-Ornstein families and all their generations, our hearts are with you. Alan was not only a familial patriarch to you, but also a pillar of our ICCJ family. His journey to Olam Ha-Ba has left a black whole in our world. However, the legacy he has left would fill and brighten galaxies. May we all be guided by Alan's example: Kindness to all, generosity of person and purse, appreciation of each day, and encouragement for everyone to be the best human and humane being they can be. *Shari Zuber*

*We are so incredibly overwhelmed with the love and support given to us during Shiva and beyond. It has been a difficult few months for our family, and we are grateful for the outpouring of comfort. We know that Alan (dad/zeda) touched the lives of many people and we take comfort in that. Thank you for all the donations of food, visits and kind thoughts.*



## RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS: Michelle Fouks

Shalom from the Religious Affairs Committee,

We hope you are all well and had a wonderful summer. Many of the committees have worked hard over the summer to plan a full year of activities for the Congregants and community and hope all will come to fruition. As you know we are anxiously awaiting the arrival of our new Rabbi, Rabbi Hillel Lavery-Yisraeli, and hope that the activities being planned will be well attended by our congregation family.



As the High Holidays are a bit later this year, (Rosh Hashanah begins Sunday evening, September 25) we have planned many activities with the hope that we will be fully back to indoor services. The plans include a Family Tashlich, Succot Festivities, all the way through to a wonderful Simchat Torah gathering. Depending on the circumstances, as Rosh Hashanah gets closer, we may once again have outdoor Shofar blowing (weather permitting), as well as an outdoor Yizkor service. As we always say, we can plan, but your attendance will make it more meaningful. Also, services

will be livestreamed for those that cannot attend in person. Please be sure to join us, and watch your e-blasts for up-to-date information. A Yasher Koach in advance to Rabbi Hillel Lavery-Yisraeli (who hopefully will be with us in person), Cantor Ribowsky and the other volunteers who will be assisting in making the services both beautiful and run smoothly.

At Religious Affairs, we are happy to listen to any ideas that you may have that can enhance our Synagogue community holiday experiences.

Please remember to join our weekday minyan on Zoom daily at 7:30 pm; Friday night service; Kabbalat Shabbat (Zoom); as well in-person services on Shabbat (livestreamed); Young Families Tot Shabbat; and closing out the Shabbat with Maariv and a beautiful Havdalah service via Zoom. We hope you are enjoying these services, and if you have feedback, please feel free to email me at [fouksm@gmail.com](mailto:fouksm@gmail.com).

Yossi and I wish you and your family a Happy, **Healthy** and wonderful New Year. Most important, stay safe, and if you need anything please let us know.

# MEMBERSHIP: Betty Shaffer

The year 5783 is approaching and it will be a very exciting time for ICCJ. With the arrival of our Rabbi Hillel Lavery-Yisraeli, we are looking forward to many new events.

Over the summer, our Board, committees and arms have been planning exciting events. Of course, we are busy preparing for the High Holy Days and the crisp coolness of fall. Please read through the rest of the

bulletin to learn more about the upcoming year.

It is with great pleasure, we welcome David and Anne Garber and their three children, William, Violet, and baby, Evan, to our ICCJ congregation. Thank you for choosing our synagogue as the caring community for your family. We hope to see all of you at our events and activities.



This is the time of the year to reflect on the New and remind ourselves of the old. Every year our ICCJ family has embraced with love and support the programs I have brought to commemorate the remembrance of 9/11.

Each year has always been different than the last, and each year we shed one more tear for another soul who has lost a relative, friend or acquaintance from that day.

Once again, I invite the ICCJ family and friends to join our commemoration on September 11,

at 8pm, on Zoom. Our guest speaker this year will be Ryan Yantis (retired) Lt. Colonel., United States Army and Pentagon 9/11 Survivor.

Mr. Yantis will speak of his personal experience and will take questions afterwards.

Please join us.

*Lisa Woliner*

# SISTERHOOD NEWS: President Lisa Woliner

Happy and Healthy New Year to our ICCJ family.

Sisterhood is looking forward to welcoming Rabbi Hillel Lavery-Yisraeli and his beautiful family.



In August, Shari & Paul Zuber entertained us with Name that Tune - The Love Edition. Leave it to them to come up with the love songs of the 40's through today. A great evening was had by all.

Our monthly Bingo game is in full bloom. In November, we will once again have our "Designer Pocketbook Bingo" with a special treat this year when our new Rabbi Hillel Lavery-Yisraeli will be calling out the winning numbers. We hope to see you all .



This year's new Program Chair, Nina Greebler, has been steadily working over the summer to find interesting and informative programs for your enjoyment and education.

Our kickoff program on September 12th—The Shanghai Ghetto, given by our guest speaker, Helen Herman, promises to be extremely enlightening. October is also on deck with Susan Speidler, entertaining us with "Beyond Golde and Yenta"...

That's a sneak peak into Sisterhood.

Look out for your Sisterhood membership renewal forms coming shortly in the mail; sign up for any committee; join us either on Zoom or in person for events; or send an idea that you think would be fun to try, we are always open to new ideas.

We can't wait to see all our Sisterhood members for another year of exciting programs.



## Announcing the New Torah Fund Campaign for 2022-2023

### The 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Torah Fund is an Important Milestone

by Rita Wertlieb and Margie Miller

*Co-Chairs of the Torah Fund 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and Past International Presidents of Women's League for Conservative Judaism*



According to custom, each wedding anniversary year has a specific traditional gift source. Interestingly, the traditional gift for an 80th anniversary happens to be oak. The oak tree takes years to mature, which directly relates to the longstanding commitment for an 80-year-old marriage to sustain itself.

This year, the Torah Fund campaign - the dedicated philanthropy of Women's League for Conservative Judaism - has reached its 80th birthday. Just like the oak tree, the dedication and nurturing of generations of our members has allowed this campaign to thrive and succeed in its goals. It is our hope that every member of Women's League, whether individually or through her affiliated Sisterhood, finds a way to honor and celebrate this milestone year. The most significant way to ensure the success of our Torah Fund campaign is to contribute generously.

Our levels of giving have been constant for over a decade. We are asking every donor, regardless of her giving level, to consider making a "Plus 80" gift. Just imagine if every donor contributed an additional \$80 in honor of this 80th anniversary! The five institutions we support have every expectation of being able to service the needs of our people for well over eight decades in the future. We can be a part of that today. Just like the strength of the oak tree, our long-range commitment and nurturing will ensure this. Plus \$80 for 80 Years will allow us to remain strong and vigilant in furthering our beloved Torah Fund campaign.



#### The New Torah Fund Pin

#### **Chazak v'Ematz: Be Strong and Courageous**

This year's pin symbolizes the story of the Israelites preparing to enter the Promised Land, when leadership transitions from Moses to Joshua. The Israelites are instructed to "be strong and courageous." (*Deuteronomy 31:5, 7, 23; Joshua 1:6, 7, 9, 18*) The 5783 Torah Fund pin represents 80 years of ever-increasing strength of Torah Fund.

**Here are several ways you may participate in this year's Torah Fund Campaign.**

**Purchase greeting cards with a purpose.** Send Torah Fund cards to acknowledge life cycle events. They're very affordable at \$5 each. **To buy one card or purchase a custom-made bundle, please contact Cynthia Begel, cbegel@gmail.com.**

**Make an \$80 for 80 Years gift.** Join the celebration by acknowledging this significant anniversary.

**Share your passion for fashion. Proudly wear the Chazak v'Ematz pin.** Donate \$180 and receive this beautiful thank you gift from Torah Fund.

**Donating to Torah Fund is a win-win-win idea:** It's a gift to someone special; it's a contribution to a worthy cause; and it's tax-deductible.

For more information about how you may be a part of the Torah Fund Campaign now, as well as the future, **please contact Anise Parnes, a.parnes8166@gmail.com.**

*Shanah tovah umetukah!*

*L'shalom,*

**Anise**

#### **Date to Save**

**Sunday, September 18**

via Zoom

**Torah Fund Stands with Israel**

*Details to follow in upcoming ICCJ eblasts*

## BELLA M. & HARRY RICHTER LIBRARY NEWS: Librarian Arlene Ratzabi



It is hard to believe that we have entered August and thoughts turn to relaxing and

enjoying the last few weeks of summer. The upcoming year should be very exciting with the arrival of Rabbi Hillel and his family! Once again, the Richter Memorial Library looks forward to co-sponsoring with other committees and arms of the synagogue, literary visits, and programs throughout the year. As members of the Jewish Book Council, the library is fortunate to have access to many fine writers. We are planning a number of ICCJ Book Cafes throughout the year.

We have put some tentative dates on the calendar for our literary programs and the books we will be discussing this year so far include:

*A Play for the End of the World* by Jai Chakrabarti  
*The Thread Collectors* by Alyson Richman  
*How to Find Your Way in the Dark* by Derek Miller  
*The Intimacy Experiment* by Rosie Danan  
*One Hundred Saturdays* by Michael Frank

I am delighted to announce that my daughter, Hila Ratzabi's book of poetry entitled *There Are Still Woods*

is coming out on September 6, and we have invited her to do a reading and talk about her book. Hila's book, as described by the publisher, June Press, is "an elegant work of ecopoetry and a profound encounter with the real and potential losses of climate change. These poems bear witness to the force and fragility of the natural world and grapple with the complexities of being a human in that landscape: being implicated, vulnerable, humbled, dazzled. I hope you will join us for this book event. Copies of her book can be preordered from June Press or Amazon or from your preferred bookseller.

In conjunction with the Education Committee, the library is pleased to welcome author Ted Merwin whose book, *Pastrami on Rye: An Overstuffed History of the Jewish Deli*, will be a featured exhibition at the New York Historical Society in November 2022. We are working on the final details of this program so stay tuned!

The library has made many new acquisitions and we encourage you to come in and visit or be in touch with us with your requests. The library catalogue is digitized and found on our website. As always, the Richter Library is also a great source for your high holiday reading for all ages!

## SPORTS CLINIC: Paul Gorel

I hope everyone had a terrific summer!!

It is September already and we have a lot to look forward to. Labor Day is here and I hope everyone has a blast on the last official days of summer as we celebrate all the hard work, everyone does all year! My staff and I remember and honor everyone affected by 9/11 and "NEVER FORGET" those who not only perished, but also those left behind and survived that horrific day!! We look forward to a fresh new beginning as we celebrate the Jewish New Year and wish everyone L'Shana Tovah and Gut Yom Tov!! Finally, we scream to the roof tops; "WE ARE BACK and WHO WANTS TO LEARN TO SWIM, GET THEIR BODIES MOVING with WATER AEROBICS or JUST SPLASH AROUND and HAVE SOME FUN DURING CONGREGATION SWIM?!!" The resounding answer is, "WE DO!!"

We are so excited for our 15<sup>th</sup> Season to start!! We are pumped up to welcome back our former students, and meet and teach our new students!!

On the start of this momentous season, we'd like to thank everyone for all their faith, love and support of this program!! Without all of you taking a chance on us in the beginning, there would be no Sports Clinic now!!

Lets have a great season!!





Presidents Joel Rothman & Sol Sturm



Calling All Men: Men's Club's year is starting, and we have 2 events in mind, with no specifics. First is the annual Veterans Shabbat program on November 12. Then, we'd like to bring back the annual December 24 evening program. Our one

person planning committee can't be the only source of ideas and programs.

If you can suggest a speaker for Veterans Shabbat, and a program for December 24, please call me at 718-454-8707, or email me at [storm454@rcn.com](mailto:storm454@rcn.com). *B'Shalom*

## SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE: Philip Parnes

Dear Fellow Congregants,

I would like to thank all who participated in the many ICCJ Social Action projects of the last year, with an extra special thank you to all who contributed to our fundraiser for those who have been displaced by the war in Ukraine.

With the start of a new year, the Social Action Committee (Rita Ash, Karen Halper, Alice Jenna, Anise Parnes, Adah Sylvan) welcomes all in our community to be a part of one, some, or all of our 5783 projects.

Here's a taste of what's coming up:

Reverse Tashlich with guidance from Tikkun HaYam, the leading Jewish marine conservation movement;

Rain Gardens maintenance guided by New York City Department of Environmental Protection personnel;

Food Drives in partnership with City Harvest all year long, and special collections prior to Thanksgiving and

Pesach;

Food Packing and Distribution at the Flushing Jewish Council's monthly food pantry;

Clothing Collection all year long, with emphasis on new and/or lightly worn warm weather outerwear and accessories in late fall;

CPR Training with New York City EMS personnel; and,



Blood Drive managed by NY Blood Center and in coordination with our eastern Queens synagogue friends.

Look for additional Social Action Committee project information via eblast and future issues of *Tikvatenu*.

I'm looking forward to the High Holy days and a great year ahead!

Wishing you and your family a happy, sweet and healthy New Year.

## COMMUNICATIONS: Nina Greebler & Linda Korobelnik

We hope you and your families enjoyed a safe and relaxing summer.

Our committee worked throughout June, July and August, updating the website and keeping the bulletin and our social media avenues operating efficiently. These sites, as well as all publications are available to all our Congregants. Please friend us on Facebook so you can keep up with all the latest information, flyers, simchas etc.

Within the next few months [iccj2004.org](http://iccj2004.org) will be getting a new facelift. This is a work in progress and will continue as such for several months. This facelift includes updating photos, information as well as committee pages/mission statements. Many of these committee pages have not been updated in the last

year or two. We are asking that all Committee Chairs review their committee's mission statements, make any relevant changes and send these changes to us as word documents. Additionally we need the help of Committee Chairs to submit pictures from the previous year's events on Zoom or in person. Please identify the event and the date. All photos need to be sent to Nina Greebler at [ngreebler@gmail.com](mailto:ngreebler@gmail.com).

Just a reminder that you can find this September issue on the website under Publications. You can also find the link to stream the Shabbat services by clicking on the appropriate link.

Wishing you and your family a Happy and Healthy New Year. L'Shana Tovah!

## YOUNG ADULTS: Jordan Brantz & Maxwell Greebler

Young Adults were out and about during the summer days as I am sure all of you were... some of our YA traveled, some took summer classes, and some simply stayed at home relaxing with family and friends.



Our Balloon Toss event on August 15 was a wet and wild time. It was our way to say "good bye to summer and hello to the 2022/2023 season." We are looking forward to our upcoming season. September not only brings the start of school and the return of the falling

leaves, it brings programs such as Movie Night, as well as Social Action events we are currently planning along with a few "surprises" down the road.

Check out our new Young Adults page on [www.iccj2004.org](http://www.iccj2004.org) and stay tuned for more updated content.

If you or your friends are interested in joining our YA chat group, please send your info to Jordan Brantz [jaybeejordan@gmail.com](mailto:jaybeejordan@gmail.com).

## YOUNG FAMILIES: Emilee Wyner

Another year is upon us and the Young Families Committee is working hard on planning wonderful events and activities. As we watch our children grow each year, we are glad to create memories and bonds with our ICCJ family. Most of all, we are excitedly awaiting the arrival of our new Rabbi and his family! We look forward to Rabbi Hillel's leadership and involvement in enhancing our synagogue and programming.

Hannah Brenman will be continuing her Tot Shabbat program this year, beginning on September 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am, and then every second and 4<sup>th</sup> Shabbat thereafter. Our committee is continuing to work on solidifying dates and events. To date, our plans include: A trip to the Queens Farm Apiary, Service Projects, a Chanukah Party, Havdalah and Movie Night, Tree Appreciation and Seedling Planting, Paint and Pizza Night, and much more! Up-to-date event and activity information is regularly shared on the ICCJ Family Programming Facebook page. If you are not already following our Facebook page, please request to be added.

The Website ([www.ICCJ2004.org](http://www.ICCJ2004.org)) also has useful information and tools for keeping up date on activities, holidays, and events. You can pay for events, High Holiday tickets, and make donations using the website.

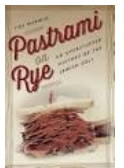
Please feel free to invite your friends and family to join our events. If you are interested in joining the committee and helping to plan activities let us know.

## EDUCATION: Nina Greebler & Adam Greebler

The Education Committee welcomes everyone back for the 2022/2023 season. We hope you all had a wonderful summer and have stayed well.

This year, we are planning many wonderful programs which we are sure you will all love. We are working diligently to find interesting and informative topics for you to enjoy. For example, our upcoming November program, we will have the pleasure of sharing the

event with the Book Café, when Ted Merwin will speak about his book, Pastrami on Rye. More details to follow.



We are also hoping that COVID will allow us to return to in-person events in the near future....until that time, we shall remain on zoom.

Looking forward to providing you with wonderful events this year.

## CHAVERIM: Co-Presidents Susan Losow & Betty Shaffer

We hope everybody had a restful and relaxing summer and managed to stay cool during the heat wave.

We have rescheduled our Paint Night and Walking Tour, and will keep everybody posted on the details as soon as we have them. Wishing Shana Tova to all.





# VOLUNTEERISM & AGING: Sheldon Ornstein Ed.D, RN, LNHA



Volunteer services provide an attractive role for many aged individuals. Interestingly, women have traditionally volunteered, but the greatest increase in volunteering has been among elderly men. The number of older women who volunteer has remained relatively constant.

Statistically, 35% of the 65 and older population are engaged in some type of volunteer work. Most of the work is with religious organizations. Those who are involved as volunteers feel they are contributing to their community and are filling gaps in services that otherwise might be unmet. Their self-esteem and usefulness appears to prevail. Here is a list of several programs that include senior volunteer opportunities:

- National Network on Aging
- Nursing Home Ombudsman Program
- Foster Grandparent Program
- Retired Senior Volunteer Program
- Senior Companion Program
- Senior Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE)
- National Volunteer School Programs such as teacher aides.

Many of these programs consist of payment to volunteers or other inducements to supplement a low income. During these fiscally troubled times, it may be possible to attract more volunteers into these programs.

One particular reason for joining a volunteer group is the social component of contact with other volunteers of a similar generation. What about volunteering in a nursing home? This can be a meaningful and rewarding experience for senior citizens.

During my time working in long term care, I had a chance to peruse the facilities monthly resident newsletters, and on occasion, participated in several of the various activities offered and listed below:

- songfests and sing-alongs with outside performers
- current news discussions with local newscasters
- friendly visits to those who were bedridden
- welcoming committee as representative to the newly admitted resident.

There are also counseling and training programs in which volunteers learn interviewing skills and develop their ability to deal with residents who are lonely and/or depressed. These particular roles have potential for elevating the resident's esteem and hold great potential for meeting the needs of many elderly. The older generation often can be skeptical of professional counseling but tend to readily accept help from their peers. Peer counseling programs have been appearing across the country. These programs train elders to help others deal with the major transitions of life such as relocation, loss of a spouse, retirement, or with the unanticipated crises that may come with growing old. There are also programs for volunteers of interfaith orientation and there are communities nationwide that have organized interfaith volunteer programs to provide in-home services for frail elders. These efforts have been organized and supported by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers program demonstrates the commitment of religious congregations that service the needs of those in the community. Initially, these programs were funded through religious denominations in 25 communities. Within three years, 900 participating congregations had recruited 11,000 volunteers and provided in-home services to over 26,000 individuals.

It appears that the volunteer role can be challenging in a positive way, and especially meaningful in later years to compensate for the potential loss of adult roles.

Group involvement, along with volunteer work, has been seen as a major means of increasing life satisfaction.

A resident I once cared for expressed it as his "freeing" or role change, when he began doing some volunteer work in his choice of venue. "This is another stage of my life and a most exciting one. I have the time and freedom to develop new interests that I had always wanted to pursue but never could fit in when my life was so full of other things that didn't mean very much at the time."

Final Thought:

For those who are seeking new ways, brighter days and productive years ahead, then volunteerism is a good option.

Quotable Quote: "Don't get all weird about getting older. Our age is merely the number of years the world has been enjoying us." *Anon.*

## ICCI MEMORY PLAQUE DEDICATION CEREMONY

Israel Center of Hillcrest Manor and the Lone Ranger  
(A True Story) *Anonymous*

Forty years ago, at 9:00 PM, I received a phone call from a guy at ICHM. "Hello?" "Hello, you're just the one I want! I need two favors. First, do you have a hook with a plumbing supply store? Second, I need a hand putting a hot water heater at the Temple."

I quickly responded no to both..."No hook, and I can't give you a hand because I have a deadline to meet, and time is zilch!"

"Okay, gotta go look for another sucker!" (this is one weird fellow) "You should have been a diplomat." I responded.

A few weeks later, while at the synagogue to pick up my Rosh Hashanah seat tickets, I ran into him. "How did you make out with the problem?" "All solved, my son works for a plumbing supply place. We went down and conned the boss into giving us the heater for cost., plus, free sidewalk delivery. Small problem shlepping it downstairs and installing, but all is done!"

"Did they thank you, and, at least buy you lunch?" "No! This is for the temple...no charge!"

While driving home, I was quite annoyed! I was brought up from childhood, and taught, if someone wishes you "Good Morning", you respond, ".. and a Good Day to you!" Any good deed is reciprocated!

I arrived home and handed my wife the seat ticket, and suddenly get an epiphany! I reach for the phone, call the guy..."Hello, you're just the guy I wanted to speak to! In regard to your good deed, I know a proper reward. There are some seats that were not sold for the holidays, let the Temple give your son and his wife free seats for your effort."

"Stop breaking my chops! We were already paid. We took off one of the 360 mitzvahs we had to do and charged it to services rendered. Now, go home and forgetaboutit!"

Note: Jews should be used to this 40 year respite....they wandered in the desert for 40 years, This unresolved story went 40 years without a solution. Now, after 40 years, a solution was at hand. (end of story)

### Chapter 2

Someone, somewhere, somehow, got the idea to honor some of our worthy congregants. It was a long but worthy wait!

In the days of yore, families sat together listening to the radio. One of the top shows was The Lone Ranger. At the end of each program, a voice would say, "Who was that man?"...and, now you will find out!

It was Mel Kaufman (and his son, Ira).

It took 40 years, in the literature business that's known as a symbolic omen!

Look skyward, you'll see Mel grinning from ear to ear, just like the Cheshire cat, while I emote:

HI YO SILVER! G-d Bless each and every one of you!



*The Kaufman Family point toward the plaque at the entrance of the ballroom, dedicated to their patriarch, Mel Kaufman.*



*The ICCJ synagogue office was dedicated in honor Lillian and Howard Kurtz. At the podium, their son, Steven, spoke of their dedication to the synagogue.*

# OHR CHADASH: School Administrator Shari Zuber

## Ohr Chadash Reaches a Milestone

In September 2008, a new Conservative religious school model began in our community. The school was named Ohr Chadash, a New Light in learning for Jewish youngsters. It reflected a concerted effort by Hillcrest Jewish Center and the Israel Center of Conservative Judaism to educate the non-day school youth of our respective synagogues in the celebrations and tenets of our faith and prepare them for their future roles as vital participants in shul life and beyond. Several years after its inception, Ohr Chadash expanded to welcome Hollis Hills Jewish Center as part of its family. As September of 2022 approaches we joyfully anticipate the start of our fifteenth year of cultivating the seeds we plant in our students which will hopefully blossom into an appreciation and love of our history, our holidays, and our beliefs.

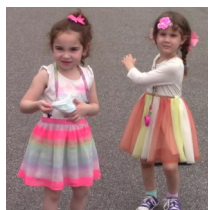
Ohr Chadash completed its fourteenth year, 5782, on Sunday, May 15, 2022, with an end-of-year outdoor commemoration of Lag B'Omer. Held in the parking lot of Israel Center of Conservative Judaism, students, parents of present students, alumni of Ohr Chadash, and parents of alumni all participated in making our end of year program one which will long be remembered.



As Yossi Brantz, father of four Ohr Chadash graduates, stoked the briquets in the grills, along with his son, Jordan, an Ohr Chadash alumnus and co-chair of

ICCI's Young Adults Committee, the school's present-day students enjoyed the many activities dotting the synagogues spacious parking lot. Michael or LeBron Basketball, Dinosaur Ring Toss, Magic Garden Horseshoes, Frisbee Tic-Tac-Toe, Pillow Dart Game, and GOOOOOOOAAAALLLLL Soccer were among the multi-player diversions available.

Additionally, one-on-one races and Pass the Baton and Egg-on-a-Spoon Relays provided healthy mixed-grade competitions which students, parents, and teachers all enjoyed. Working up an appetite was well worth the effort when the barbequed chicken, hot dogs, and hamburgers were ready for eating. All the accompanying fixin's, such as



cole slaw, potato salad, tossed green salad, tater tots, and so much more made the meal complete. And what was the best way to top off the repast and cool the palate than with ruby red watermelon.



Arlene Ratzabi of the Ohr Chadash School Board was on hand to sign up eager students for the coming semester. After the delightful end-of-term commemoration who wouldn't want to return to our school in the fall?

Much gratitude goes out to the many who helped in the preparation and implementation of the day's festivities. In addition to our chef master, Yossi Brantz, and Jordan, we want to thank Zachary's dad, Todd, and ICCJ members Adam Greebler and Jay Woliner for grill tending. Much appreciation goes out to the moms and dads who helped with overseeing the games with impartialness and fairness. Fearing that I might offend by omission, I extend a blanket "Yosher Koach" to all.

I would be neglectful if I did not thank our morot, Judy, Marina, and Zechava for making this wonderful year of learning possible. We work as a team to help insure that our students complete each school year with a sense of satisfaction of what they've accomplished and a feeling that education can be enjoyable and not a drudgery.

As of this writing we look forward to the Ohr Chadash Open House, slated for Sunday morning, August 28, 2022, from 10 AM until Noon, at Hillcrest Jewish Center. HJC will be housing our school for the fall semester, beginning on Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00 AM. We are expanding our curriculum with innovative new components. As always, I am readily available to speak to anyone interested in our school. See you in September.



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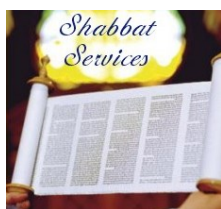
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Nina Greebler & Linda Korobelnik

Please join us  
for



## SHABBAT & ROSH HASHANA CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES SEPTEMBER 2022

9/2 - Shoftim - 7:07 PM

9/25 - Rosh Hashana - 6:29 PM

9/9 - Ki Teitzei - 6:56 PM

9/26 - Rosh Hashana - 7:26 PM

9/16 - Ki Tavo - 6:44 PM

9/30 - Vayeilech - 6:21 PM

9/23 - Nitzavim - 6:32 PM

