

Chai~Lights



April 2016

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Keys Jewish Community Center

P.O. Box 1332 • Tavernier, FL 33070 • 305-852-5235 • keysjewishcenter.com

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Steve Hartz Steve Steinbock <i>Nettie & Jules Seder</i>	2 Bernie Ginsberg Lecture 7:00 p.m. Havdalah
3 Sisterhood 9:00 a.m. Board Meeting 11:00 a.m.	4	5	6	7	8 Joyce Peckman & Art Itkin <i>Gene & Mort Silverman</i>	9
10 Women's Seder 5:00 p.m. at KJCC	11	12	13	14	15 Erica Lieberman -Garrett and Mitch Harvey <i>Barbara Knowles</i>	16 Rabbi Agler Torah Service 10 a.m.
17	18	19	20	21	22 Erev Pesach Steve Steinbock & Michael Kaufman 6:30 p.m. Pesach	23 KJCC Family Seder 6:30 PM
24	25	26	27	28	29 Yizkor Service Bernie Ginsberg <i>Gene & Mort Silverman</i>	30 Last dy of Passover

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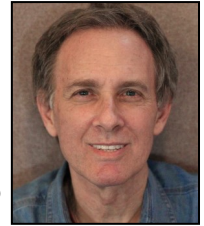
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33070@keysjewishcenter.com

President's Message Sam Vinicur



I have never, I don't think, been mistaken for Voltaire's Professor Pangloss, who despite watching his student Candide suffer an increasing onslaught of Job-like travails, steadfastly insisted on describing ours as "the best of all possible worlds." (Candide did eventually learn the ways of the world, despite the inane prattlings of his teacher, and eventually proclaimed one of literature's most perfect straddlings of blind optimism and cool practicality: "we must cultivate our own garden.")

Still, I feel lucky (despite our own well-documented travails) to be one of the children of Israel, and specifically of the tribes of either Judah or Benjamin, the only two to survive the swords of invading Assyria in 722 B.C.E. (Had the Levites not been spread parasitically throughout all eleven other tribes, they likely would have disappeared, too. They were necessary then.)

I feel lucky that the Pharisees diverged in philosophy and temperament from the priestly and rigid Sadducees, because this prepared them to morph into the rabbis. I feel lucky that Hillel's flexible and broader thinking largely won out over Shammai's textual literalism. I feel lucky that the rabbis sought and found deeper and universal meaning in the passages of

the Torah, so that Judaism became a code of ideas, not rules, and could therefore be portable and fully thrive even after both Judea and the Temple were erased from history.

Gloria and I had, we found (perhaps others did, too) the exact same feeling wash over us when, at his March Saturday morning service, Rabbi Agler lifted our open Holocaust Torah high over his head and held it there proudly. It had been less than a week since our big day of celebration and re-dedication. We had nurtured this wounded (again) Torah, and had it restored (again), and then, all together as one KJCC, helped complete it (again) with our own hands. We had once more (again) fulfilled our covenant with the destroyed Jewish community of Susice. Our Torah – their Torah – lives. They live through it and us. Jewish life continues unbroken. And by breathing new life into this Torah we somehow breathe renewed life into our collective self. Everyone who was there that Sunday felt it. You could see it in their faces, and in tears tenderly rolling down cheeks. You can (soon) read it in words they wrote immediately after their intimate moments beside it. This was what Gloria and I felt, that day condensed into a sudden flash of meaning.

I feel very lucky to have been part of it. ♦

Nosh

David Gitin Memorial Award

California's Monterey Peninsula College has created a new award in memory of our own David Gitin. Every spring from this year forward, a deserving creative writing student will be presented with the "David Gitin Memorial Award." This award has been underwritten entirely by instructors at the college where, for many years, David taught Humanities and Creative Writing. He obviously had as much of a positive impact on others as he did here on our KJCC mishpocha. His memory is truly "for a blessing."

TREE OF LIFE ROCK

Donated by
Lawrence and Pearl Jacobs

In honor of
Larry and Pearl Jacobs and family,
Donna, Carrie, Robin, and Arlene.

Oneq Sponsors for April 2016

- April 1st* - Nettie and Jules Seder in honor of their anniversary.
- April 8th* - Gene and Mort Silverman to mark Gene's birthday.
- April 15th* - Barbara Knowles to celebrate Eve and Richard's birthdays.
- April 22nd* - First Night of Passover
- April 29th* - Gene and Mort Silverman in honor of their anniversary.

April Birthdays

1st.....	Bennet Beinfest
3rd.....	Harvey Kay
3rd.....	Justin L. Lebofsky
4th.....	Larry Weber
4th.....	Lauren Lane
4th.....	Thomas Brodie
5th.....	Jon Tainow
9th.....	David Feder
9th.....	Gene Silverman
10th.....	Abigail Everson
10th.....	Addison Greene-Barnett
12th.....	Richard Knowles
13th.....	Eve Knowles
13th.....	Samantha Lebofsky
13th.....	Shawn Borisoff
14th.....	Herman Katzenell
15th.....	Toby Bofshever
16th.....	Dave VanArtsdalen
17th.....	Katie Greenman
17th.....	Susan Ellner
18th.....	Carol Roaman
18th.....	Jennifer Garrett
18th.....	Lauren Sax
19th.....	Augie Moss
20th.....	Jonathan Nobil
22nd.....	Robin S. Denker
22nd.....	Susan Temkin
24th.....	Lynn Nobil
24th.....	Susan Gordon
24th.....	Tiffany McNew
25th.....	Shirley Stein
26th.....	Maryann Boruszak
27th.....	Elinor Grossman
28th.....	Joni Sages Dandrea
29th.....	David Goldfinger
29th.....	Linda Pollack
30th.....	Jason Sherman

Bon Voyage, Bernie

In April the intrepid Bernie Ginsberg will be leaving to accompany this year's Miami troop on the March of the Living in Eastern Europe as an attending physician. Safe marching, Bernie. We look forward to hearing your stories on your return.

Lecture by Dr. Bernie Ginsberg

“Unusual Jewish Communities Around the World” is the topic of a lecture that will be given by the ever-ebullient Bernie Ginsberg on Saturday night, April 2nd at 7 p.m. It should be far more interesting and worthwhile than anything showing at the local theatre. Refreshments will be provided before his talk, and we’ll have a Havdalah service afterward.

This Year’s KJCC Family Seder

For the first time, we will have a professional Cantor — Barry Skolnick, brother of our own Susan Gordon — join our seder leaders. Your check for \$50 per person to KJCC Sisterhood is your reservation for our April 23rd Second Seder at the Islamorada Fishing Club. Children under 13 years old are our guests. RSVP to Erica Lieberman-Garrett (hippiejap@hotmail.com).

April Anniversaries

	Years
3rd Jules & Nettie Seder.....	50
10th Stuart & Geri Smith.....	51
18th Rick & Roberta McNew.....	35
25th Murray Rapoport & Barbara Osder.....	20
30th Jerrold & Roos-Mary Benowitz.....	9
30th Morton & Gene Silverman.....	61

Torah Learning Service

Rabbi Richard Agler will lead a Torah Learning Service on Saturday, April 16th at 10 a.m. This is *Shabbat Hagadol*, the Sabbath before Passover, so he will certainly have many interesting topics to choose from. We will be reading from our beautifully restored Holocaust Torah .

Ongoing Projects and Mitzvah Programs of KJCC

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE: If you know of any member who should receive a get well, congratulations or condolence card from the KJCC, call Gene Silverman, 305-664-3316.

CEMETERY INFORMATION: If you wish to plan for the very distant future, you can reserve space at the Kendall Mt. Nebo Cemetery in the KJCC section. Call Bernie Ginsberg, 305-852-9300.

MEDITATION GARDEN: Have you visited our beautiful garden? Call Steve Steinbock, 305-394-0143, to reserve a bench, brick or tree plaque for posterity.

ONEG SHABBAT SPONSOR: To schedule your special date with Sisterhood, call Joyce Peckman, 305-451-0665.

KJCC TREE OF LIFE LEAVES and ROCKS, SANCTUARY SEAT PLATES, YARTZEIT MEMORIAL PLAQUES: Call Mitch Harvey, 303-521-5240, to arrange your donation.

KJCC BOOKPLATES for siddurim: Call Linda Pollack, 305-852-8575 for information.

CHAI-LIGHTS MITZVAH: Place a greeting or notice in Chai-Lights. Call Linda Pollack, 305-852-8575, to make your donation.

ADVERTISEMENT IN CHAI-LIGHTS or DIRECTORY: Your business ad will appear in every issue of Chai-Lights. Call Linda Pollack, 305-852-8575, for annual rates.

LIVE GREEN – RECYCLE: We are recycling ink cartridges, laser toners, cell phones, laptops, iddevices, tablets and more. Call Steve Steinbock, 305-394-0143, or just bring your items to the KJCC.

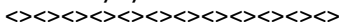
Call the names listed above for assistance or send your request and check to the KJCC, P.O. Box 1332, Tavernier, FL 33070. Recipients of your gifts will be notified by card and listings will appear in Chai-Lights as well. Honorarium and memorial cards can also be requested. Donations can be earmarked to our various ongoing funds; e.g. Holocaust Education Fund, Meditation Garden, Rabbi & Cantor Fund, Scholarship Fund, Sara Cohen Memorial Tzedakah Fund, Sunshine Fund, or General Fund.

In Memoriam April 2016

In Memory Of

Helen Berman

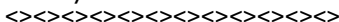
By Sylvia Berman



In Memory Of

Nat Feldblum

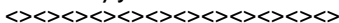
By Marc & Ellen Bloom



In Memory Of

Baruch Epstein

By Joan Boruszak



In Memory Of

Mark Hitzig

By Wes & Rita Conklin



In Memory Of

Bill Gordon

By Susan Gordon



In Memory Of

Stella Hartz

By Steven & Jan Hartz



In Memory Of

Nathan Klein

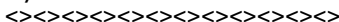
By Harvey & Judith Klein



In Memory Of

Joe Clark

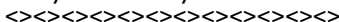
By Alan Beth & Candace Stanlake



In Memory Of

Jean Blumenfeld

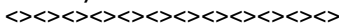
By Marvin & Ivy Blumenfeld



In Memory Of

Joseph T. Cline

By Meredith A. Cline



In Memory Of

Vivian Faye

By Sydney! Faye-Davis



In Memory Of

Marty Graham

By Mrs. Marty Graham



In Memory Of

Michael Janowitz

By Sam & Leslie Janowitz



In Memory Of

Fred Klimpl

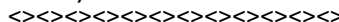
By Michael Klimpl



In Memory Of

Clara Bloom

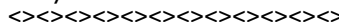
By Marc & Ellen Bloom



In Memory Of

Audrey Pearlman

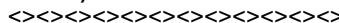
By William & Donna Bolton



In Memory Of

Ellen Coltman

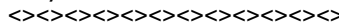
By Barnet O. Coltman



In Memory Of

Frances Wolfe

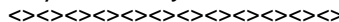
By Michael & Suzanne Gilson



In Memory Of

Sylvia Grossman

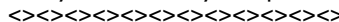
By Kenneth & Jerri Grossman



In Memory Of

Gertrude F. Kaplan

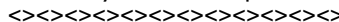
By Marshall & Myra Kaplan



In Memory Of

Marilyn Janet Barr

By Michael Klimpl

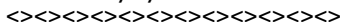


In Memoriam April 2016

In Memory Of

George Nobil

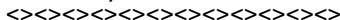
By Lynn Nobil



In Memory Of

Dr. Joel Pollack

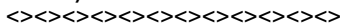
By Linda Pollack



In Memory Of

Sam Sax

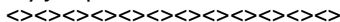
By Stuart & Lauren Sax



In Memory Of

Sally Shabathai

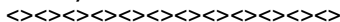
By Joseph & Katherine Shabathai



In Memory Of

Morris Smith

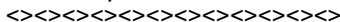
By Stuart & Geri Smith



In Memory Of

Ida Tallent

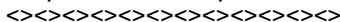
By Lillian Tallent



In Memory Of

Hilda Mazur

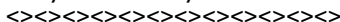
By Sanford & Nancy Yankow



In Memory Of

Zelda Pearl

By Scott & Mary Anne Pearl



In Memory Of

Rabbi Milton Greenwald

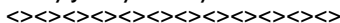
By Paul & Susan Roberts



In Memory Of

Dolores Feldman

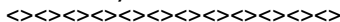
By Jeffrey & Patty Schocket



In Memory Of

Ginger Lewis

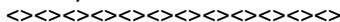
By Robert Silk



In Memory Of

Claire Smith

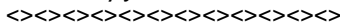
By Stuart & Geri Smith



In Memory Of

Dr. Milton A. Wohl

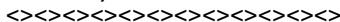
By Joan P. Wohl



In Memory Of

Irwin Cutler

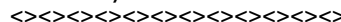
By Donald Zinner



In Memory Of

Erwin Moss

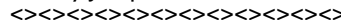
By Linda Pollack



In Memory Of

Louise Folks Baker

By Joseph & Susan Sachs



In Memory Of

Richard Schulberg

By Alan & Elaine Schulberg



In Memory Of

Louis S. Smith

By Steven & Barbara Smith



In Memory Of

Cantor Alex Chapin

By Steven & Barbara Smith



In Memory Of

Charles Kram

By Sanford & Nancy Yankow



In Memory Of

David Wernicoff

By Donald Zinner



Keys Jewish Community Center
**13th Annual
Women's Seder**

Sunday

April 10, 2016

5:00 PM @ KJCC

Homemade Seder Dinner
w/Wine

Come celebrate the 13th
Women's Seder

Donation: \$18 chai
+ \$13.00 for 13 years =
\$31.00

Join us in celebration as
we continue our efforts of
Tikkun Olam - repair the
world.

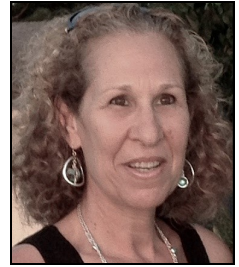
Limited seating - Please RSVP by
April 6th

Contact Erica Lieberman-Garrett
hippiejap@hotmail.com,
(305) 393-1182



Sisterhood

Erica Lieberman-Garrett



I would like to thank everyone who made the Jewish Food Extravaganza such a great success. It takes a lot of time and effort to feed and entertain ninety people. Elinor and Herb Grossman, Donna Bolton, Susan Gordon and Gene Silverman spent many hours setting up the tables.

The event was successful due to the underwriting and sponsorship of Stan Margulies, David and Toby Goldfinger, George and Muriel Swartz, Michael and Lorena Kaufman, David and Patti Gross, Steve Steinbock, Joel and Toby Bofshever, Linda Pollack, Susan Ellner, Lee Schur, and Terry Willner Tainow. Steve Hartz schlepped the knishes and kishka from lands afar, and Marc and Ellen Bloom provided their colorful fruit salad. Linda Perloff brought her cucumber salad and the best rugalahs in the universe, and Beth Hayden added her Sephardic flair with her spicy Moroccan vegetarian and chicken Tagine. Terry Willner Tainow, one of our newest members, jumped right in to help with the set up and make a gigantic garden salad just for Gloria! Joyce Peckman was unable to actually attend the evening, but she is so dedicated to Sisterhood and the shul that her scrumptious kasha varnishkes arrived somehow to the buffet table. Special thanks also goes to Roberta McNew for her incredible chopped liver, Jane Friedman for her green bean delight and all the shopping and schlepping, and to Gloria Avner and Susan Gordon for preparing their special brisket and trimmings for ninety hungry people. There was so much food left over that everyone took a to-go box to enjoy for the next day. We sent home care packages, including matzah ball soup (better known as Jewish penicillin) to those who were sick and unable to make it. (I made the matzah ball soup over two weekends.) Thank you Natalie and Barry Dorf for the hot dog stand and the condiments. They were a much-loved innovation.

We are grateful to Gene Silverman for the festive decorations and for assembling the beautiful raffle baskets, filled by generous donations from our larger community as well as our members. Steve Steinbock provided the beautiful orchid basket that was won by Lorena Kaufman. Art Itkin donated a delicious nut ensemble for the nosh basket that Lee Schur took home to enjoy during the Oscars. Linda Perloff will enjoy her massage and wellness items from Garrett Chiropractic and I will enjoy the lovely Jewish book donated by Medina Roy and the various items from Sisterhood in the Judaica basket. The grand prize restaurant basket had over \$500 in gift certificates from Chef Michael's, Green Turtle/Kaiyo, Bitton Bistro, Cafe Moka, and Num Thai. The lucky winner was a friend and fellow yogi Mary Brill, who was thrilled.

Patti Gross put the program together. Susan Gordon prepared the mini film clips that were kitschy and fun, while Lee Schur and Sydney! Faye Davis sold the raffle tickets and Elinor Grossman helped with the event flow.

Sisterhood is already gearing up for the upcoming Passover season. Our 13th annual Women's Seder will be held on Sunday April 10th. We began preparing for this event by making matzah plates at Beth Kaminstein's pottery studio. I always enjoy this bonding experience that takes our activities outside of the Shul. I especially love when Beth brings our pottery, like "show and tell," to the Seder for us to take to our seats and decorate our tables. We also look forward to the Family Seder at the Islamorada Fishing Club on Saturday, April 23rd. It is going to be extra special this year. We will have a guest leader, Cantor Barry Skolnick, brother of Susan Gordon. Look for the full-page ads for these seders later in this issue. ◇

Contributions to KJCC

We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who support the Keys Jewish Community Center by remembering and honoring their friends and loved ones through their generous contributions. All donations made after the fifth of the month will appear in the following month's Chai-Lights. When you make a donation, please signify the fund it is to go to and the recognition of the name or names to be listed.

Book Plates

Willner, Arthur Lee and Johanna
Love from Elliana & Aaron Willner
Willner, Arthur Lee and Johanna
50th Golden Anniversary,
Love from David & Angela Willner

In Honor of

Grandpa's 90th,
Mom & Dad's
50th Golden Anniversary,
Love from David & Angela Willner

Yahrzeits

Boruszak, Joan
Coltman, Barney
Dorf, Barry & Natalie
Feinberg, Arthur
Isenberg, Patricia
Lieberman-Garrett, Erica
Marmar, David & Pamela
Olsen, Gerald & Sheila
Rose, Frank
Temkin, Robert

Robert Kohlenbrener
Eve Greenstein
Hilda Dorf
William Feinberg
Harry Phillips
Sam Lieberman
Samuel Marmar
Louis Weinstein
Cissie Rose Lang
Anne Temkin

General Fund

Feinberg, Arthur

Tree of Life – Rock

Jacobs, Lawrence & Pearl
Jacobs and Family, Donna, Carrie,
Robin, and Arlene

In Honor of

Larry and Pearl
Jacobs and Family, Donna, Carrie,
Robin, and Arlene

How Certain Contributions to KJCC Can Instantly Become Permanent, Living Memorials

Book Plates: We are, after all, the People of the Book. For \$36 an inscription of your choice will be placed in one of our Siddurim or Tanakhs. An example: "In Loving Memory of my grandfather, who first taught me about the treasures that lie between these covers."

Tree of Life Leaves: We have three beautiful, six-foot Trees of Life — the world's most enduring spiritual metaphor — adorning the wall at the rear of the KJCC sanctuary. For \$75 an individual, golden leaf can be engraved with your message of memory or love. An example: "To our grandchildren: May they always be in the presence of the Eternal Light."

Garden Bricks: \$125 buys a single brick and \$200 a double brick in our magnificent Meditation Garden walkway, engraved with your personal message. An example: "You were the best, Aunt Goldie. Well, you and those amazing cheese blintzes." For \$300 we'll plant the native tree of your choice as the ultimate living tribute; an outdoor plaque is included in the price.

YEDA VE'TORASHA

Yardena Kamely



Passover Haggadahs — Ever Evolving

Pesach is my favorite Jewish holiday. I like the family gathering and the special food we prepare together. I like to take the beautiful Pesach dishes out of their boxes, and the collection of *Haggadot* down from the bookshelves. The Seder is a teaching event, and its textbook is the *Haggadah*. This word, which means “telling,” comes from the verse in Exodus: “*Ve’higadeta le’vincha*” – “and you shall tell your son.”

The Haggadah is a compilation of stories, Biblical passages, interpretations, hymns and instructions for conducting the Seder that were written and added to by many people over a long period of time. Parts of the text are over 2,000 years old. The Rabbis say that the Torah is the foundational text for Jewish law, but the Haggadah is our book of living memory. We are not merely telling a story here; we are reliving the past of our ancestors and trying to empathize, connecting their lives with ours. And if we get interested and pay attention, we might see ourselves in the stories; we are each one of the “Four Sons.”

The basic text of the Haggadah was written by Rabban Shimeon ben Gamaliel in the 2nd century C.E. The major compilation is believed to have been written by the *Geonim of Babylonia* (great rabbis) in the 7th or 8th century. Poems and hymns were added from the 11th century on. For a long time, the Haggadah was part of the Siddur. The earliest completed Passover Haggadah text appeared in

the prayer book of Saadiah Ben Joseph (also known as Saadiah Gaon) of the Sura academy in Babylonia in the 10th century C.E. Until the 15th century, Haggadot were written and illustrated by hand. The earliest written forms of

the Passover Haggadah text are from 8th or 9th-century Israel and are preserved only as fragments. These fragments are mostly found in the Cairo Genizah. (*Genizah* means a hiding place in Hebrew, and refers to a depository for valuable items. The Cairo Genizah was a depository from the 10th to 13th centuries in Cairo, Egypt, and its contents have helped historians and scholars to understand Oriental Jewish life in medieval times.)

The first printed Haggadot originated in Guadalajara, Spain about 1482 and Italy in 1505. The earliest illuminated Sephardic Passover Haggadah

is the opulent Golden Haggadah from Barcelona, Spain, circa 1320.

The best known Hebrew Haggadah manuscript is the Sarajevo Haggadah, originally produced circa 1350 as a wedding gift to a young couple in Barcelona, Spain; it is now in the National Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina in Sarajevo. It reached the Sarajevo museum in 1894 when a child in the Sephardic community in Sarajevo brought it to school to be sold after his father died.

They say that Jews have a special relationship to books, and the Haggadah, which has



been published in over 3500 versions, has been translated more widely and reprinted more often than any other book. Since the introduction of the printing press in the 15th century, the creativity of Haggadah writers has continued. The need for new Haggadot does not mean that the existing ones are not good. It's about finding new ways to engage everyone at the seder table in the story of *Yetzi'at Mitzrayim*, the story of our long journey from slavery to freedom. Haggadot with commentaries that relate to our conflicts today, to how our world looks and feels, keep

us interested. In modern times; topics have included the Holocaust, the struggle of the Russian Jews and Israel's independence. One of the more practical and interesting modern Haggadot is the one issued by the Israeli army. Incorporating texts from Ashkenazic, Sephardic and Yemenite tradi-

tions, it encourages Israeli soldiers to enjoy the seder together and learn about each other's customs.

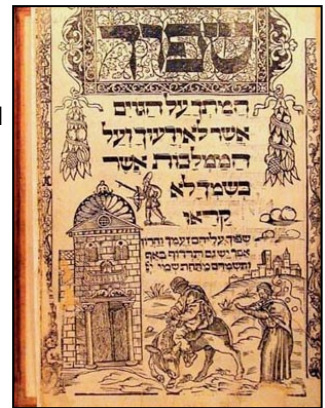
The Haggadah has been translated into many languages so that everyone can understand and participate in the Seder. There is a Chinese Haggadah from the 17th or 18th century written on rice paper with a brush pen. It contains instructions in Farsi transliterated into Hebrew letters, suggesting that Chinese Jews got their religious instruction from Persia.

My family has celebrated Pesach in Israel, England, Italy, Chile and the U.S. My grandparents and parents celebrated the seder fol-



A page from the Sarajevo Haggadah

lowing the Persian tradition. We, their children, continue celebrating Pesach with the traditional "Persian seder," adding some Ashkenazic customs to it. It is a *mitzvah* to invite many guests, not only family members, but also those people who don't have a home where they can go or don't know how to celebrate Pesach. At my parents' seder, if there were fewer than 20 people, my father was not happy. Wherever we celebrated Pesach, we took our *Haggadot* with us. Each of us had a Haggadah we preferred. My mother used a Haggadah that was written only in Hebrew, with large print for easy reading. My sister and her family read from a Haggadah with English translation. The kids would choose Haggadot with many and colorful illustrations. My children read from the Haggadah with Spanish translation and Hebrew in large print. This year we will gather in Miami -- the whole *mishpoche*, three generations, coming



Mantua, Italy, circa 1560

from Chile, Washington, New York and California. What new Haggadot will our "kids" bring with them? *Chag Pesach Same'ach* ◊



14th Century Germany

World Jewish Report

Medina Roy



Making a Comeback After 2,000 Years

Jenna and Gil Lewinsky, an Israeli couple living on a small farm in British Columbia, are raising an extremely rare breed of speckled, four-horned sheep which they plan to take to Israel. The breed is known as *Jacob sheep*, named for our biblical patriarch, who selected these “speckled and spotted” sheep as wages from his father-in-law Laban in the Book of Genesis. These sheep apparently followed the Israelites to Egypt and then spread across the ancient world. After that, Moorish traders brought them to Spain, where British merchants imported them for meat and wool. The sheep - there are currently only about 5,000 worldwide - have not been seen in Israel for about 2,000 years. According to the *Jacob Sheep Society*, a British breeding organization, the sheep were brought to Canada about 120 years ago. Some were sold to zoos, which preserved the flocks. When the Lewinskys learned that the sheep were long extinct in Israel, they decided to learn how to raise them in order to resurrect the breed and return them to the Holy Land. Getting the animals back to Israel was difficult as Israel’s agriculture ministry at first opposed the plan. But after a push by the ambassador from the Israeli Embassy in Ottawa, the Israeli government agreed. The Lewinskys are preparing to resettle their flock on a farm in northern Israel for educational and scientific purposes. (www.nytimes.com, 3-3-16)

A National Disgrace?

Willis Carto, 89, a former U.S. soldier who died in October, was buried in February at Arlington National Cemetery. Carto was wounded in World War II in the Philippines and earned a Purple Heart, which qualified him for a military funeral in the cemetery. Why is this story of interest? After the war, Carto became an outspoken Nazi sympathize

er and Holocaust denier. He founded the *Liberty Lobby*, a white supremacist group and the *Institute for Historical Review*, a group that promotes Holocaust denial. (At the height of the *Liberty Lobby*’s popularity in the 1980s, there were 400,000 subscribers to its newsletter.) While veterans convicted of federal or state crimes are ineligible for burial at Arlington, there is no policy prohibiting burial for someone with controversial political views. Rabbi Marvin Heir, founder of the *Simon Wiesenthal Center*, a Holocaust research and awareness organization, said: “For a person who supported a man responsible for the greatest mass murder in the history of mankind to be buried on the sacred ground [alongside] service members who fought to do everything to defeat this man, it profanes the cemetery.” Carto wanted to be buried in Arlington because of the irony given his pro-Nazi views. Marilyn Mayo, spokeswoman for the *Anti-Defamation League* said, “It’s unfortunate that someone with Carto’s views gets to be buried in our national cemetery, but if he meets the criteria there is not much that can be done. The government can’t be tasked with whether or not to bury someone based on their ideology.” (www.huffingtonpost.com, 2-17-16)

“The Perfect Edition of G-d’s Words”

In early February, the *United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization* (UNESCO), officially recognized the *Aleppo Codex* and placed it in its *International Memory of the World Register*, a registry of 300 items and collections of unique cultural importance from all over the world. The Codex, believed to be the world’s oldest surviving copy of the Hebrew Bible, is now on permanent display at the Israel Museum in Jeru-

salem. The registry already contains two other items from Israel: the Israel Museum's *Rothschild Miscellany*, a collection of illustrated 15th century manuscripts; and the *Pages of Testimony* at the *Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum*, which documents the names and stories of Holocaust victims. The Codex was written in the northern Israeli town of Tiberius around 930 CE and then moved to Jerusalem, where it was stolen when the Crusaders sacked the city in 1099. It was later ransomed by the Jews of Cairo and brought to that city, where it served Maimonides when he wrote the *Mishnah Torah* – his famed compilation of Jewish religious law – in the late 12th century. In the 14th century, the Codex ended up in Aleppo, Syria, where it was kept for hundreds of years in a dark cave under the city's synagogue. It was smuggled out of Syria and into Israel in 1958. Since that time, some 190 pages of priceless text – around 40 percent of the total – have gone missing. These include four out of the first five books of the Pentateuch (often referred to as the Five Books of Moses) as well as five books from the last section – *Eichah* (Lamentations), *Kohelet* (Ecclesiastes), *Esther*, *Daniel* and *Ezra*. "The Aleppo Codex: In Pursuit of One of the World's Most Coveted, Sacred and Mysterious Books," by Matti Friedman – the 2014 winner of the *Sami Rohr Prize for Jewish Literature* – chronicles the full history of the Codex. (www.haaretz.com, 2-9-16)

It's the Worst in 900 Years

According to recent studies by researchers at NASA, the drought which began in 1998 in the Levant – the eastern Mediterranean area made up of Cyprus, Israel (including the Palestinian territories), Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and Turkey – is most likely the worst in 900 years. Some experts believe that this historic drought was one of several contributing factors that worsened the situation in Syria and helped lead to the outbreak of that country's devastating civil war in 2011. This in turn has led to an eventual exodus of millions of people, overwhelming several European countries. The drought has caused widespread crop failure, leading to a mass migration of

farming families to the urban areas and further contributing to political unrest. The authors of the studies claim that the severity of the drought is partly the result of climate change caused by human activity. The NASA's researchers examined rings of trees – both living and dead – across a span of nine centuries in order to study the incidence of drought in the region. Israel has also experienced the same severe drought, but its effects were significantly less due to the country's six desalination plants that produce close to 600 million cubic meters of water, nearly 70 percent of Israel's domestic water consumption. By 2020, the desalination plants should reach a capacity of 750 million cubic meters. The study's lead author Ben Cook, a climate scientist at NASA's *Goddard Institute for Space Studies* and the *Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory* at Columbia University, said that the research supports other studies indicating human causes of extreme climate events. (www.cnn.com, 3-3-16)

In Memoriam

★ Avigdor "Yanush" Ben-Gal, a hero of Israel's 1973 Yom Kippur War and one of the commanders who helped shape the Israel Defense Forces (IDF), died recently. He was 79. A child Holocaust survivor, Ben-Gal was born in Lodz, Poland. After the Germans invaded, his family fled to Siberia and en route his parents died. He and his sister made their way to Iran and then in 1943 to Israel, part of the "Tehran Children," where a distant cousin raised them. (The "Tehran Children" refers to a group of Polish Jewish children, mainly orphans, who escaped the Nazi occupation of Poland. These children found temporary refuge in orphanages and shelters in the Soviet Union, and were later evacuated with several hundred adults to Tehran, Iran, before finally reaching Palestine in 1943.) Ben-Gal joined the IDF and fought in the Suez War in 1956. He found his purpose in the IDF, rising in the ranks to head the 7th Armored Brigade during one of the most difficult battles in the Yom Kippur War, one that helped block the Syrian army on the Golan Heights. He later led the IDF's Northern Command from 1977

to 1981. Ben-Gal was chairman of the board of directors of *Israel Aerospace Industries* from 1996 to 2002 and served on the board of the *International Policy Institute for Counter-Terrorism*. (www.jpost.com, 2-13-16)

* Douglas Slocombe, acclaimed British cinematographer who filmed the Nazi invasion of Poland, has died at the age of 103. Slocombe was born in London and raised in Paris. When he was 29, he read a headline about the pending invasion and went to Poland where he met up with documentary filmmaker Herbert Kline. The two men traveled around Poland by train at night, once crawling under the train to avoid strafing by Nazi airplanes. Kline used Slocombe's footage in his 1940 documentary "Lights Out in Europe," about the run-up to World War II. Slocombe shot some 80 films; when he was nearly 70, Steven Spielberg chose him to be head of cinematography for his three "Indiana Jones" films. Slocombe was nominated for three *Academy Awards* and was given a lifetime achievement award in 1955 from the *British Society of Cinematographers*. (www.jta.org, 2-23-16)

* Samuel Willenberg, the last survivor of the Treblinka death camp in Nazi-occupied Poland, died in Israel in February. He was 93. Willenberg was sent to Treblinka when he was 19. He was one of the leading members of the underground revolt by the camp's prisoners in 1943, opening fire at Nazi SS forces, setting parts of the camp on fire and storming the fences. Some 200 prisoners took part in the revolt and most were killed. Willenberg – one of just 67 men known to have survived the revolt – managed to escape, later joining the Polish partisans and participating in the *Warsaw Uprising* in 1944. His parents (his mother converted to Judaism from Orthodox Christianity before he was born) survived the war by pretending to be non-Jewish Poles but his two sisters were murdered at the camp. Willenberg moved to Israel in 1950. He dedicated the rest of his life to preserving the memory of more than 875,000 people murdered at Treblinka in a one-year killing spree at the height of World War II. Later in his life, he began sculpting bronze figures describing

what he saw at Treblinka. According to Gideon Greif, chief historian of the *Shem Olam Institute*, Willenberg "was committed to making sure that the voices of the victims were not forgotten." More than 70 years after the war, some 180,000 elderly Holocaust survivors live in Israel, with a similar number worldwide. More than 1,000 die each month. Experts predict that within seven years, none of them will be able to share anything of significance. (For the full story of Samuel Willenberg, look for the documentary film "Treblinka's Last Witness," in the KJCC library. It was presented at the KJCC in April 2015 to commemorate *Holocaust Remembrance Day*. (www.worldjewishcongress.org, 2-21-16)

Did You Know...

* Israel's *Science and Technology Ministry* has signed an agreement with the *California Institute for Regenerative Medicine* (CIRM) for research in the field of biotechnology, focusing on stem cell research. Adam Milstein, chairman of the *Israeli-American Council*, said the organization is "excited by the opportunity to promote one of the most pressing issues facing humanity." (www.jpost.com, 2-10-16)

* Billionaire businessman and philanthropist David Rubenstein has donated \$18.5 million to repair and restore Washington, D.C.'s Lincoln Memorial. In the past few years, Rubenstein, co-CEO of *The Carlyle Group*, has donated over \$35 million dollars to repair national parks and historical institutions, among them the Washington Monument, George Washington's home in Mount Vernon, the Robert E. Lee Memorial and the U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial (more familiarly known as the Iwo Jima Memorial). According to *Forbes* magazine, Rubenstein, 66, of Bethesda, Maryland is worth \$2.3 billion. (www.forward.com, 2-16-16)

* The editors of *Vulture*, the culture section of *New York* magazine, recently compiled a list entitled "The 100 Jokes That Shaped Modern Comedy." The list is dominated by Jews, in spite of the fact that members of the tribe make up just two percent of the population. Jews were responsible for about 50 of the top 100 jokes. (www.jta.org, 2-3-16) ◇

Photo Gallery

Our movie series begins. “The Gatekeepers,” the riveting, award-winning documentary featuring the past six leaders of Shin Bet, Israel’s internal security service, was shown on Feb. 21st. After the film, Rabbi Agler led a thoughtful discussion, shown at right.



Below and right, Rabbi Agler’s Saturday morning Torah learning service on February 27th. We used our not-quite-finished Torah, glad to have it returned from restoration.





Sunday School students, parents and grandparents practice saying Kiddush after baking hamentaschen under the guidance of Nettie and Jules Seder. At left, Steve Steinbock sponsored an oneg in honor of his birthday.



At right, the walking wounded make it to Friday night services. Not shown are the canes and walkers used by Humberto and Medina. Joyce's nose is pretty obvious. At bottom right, Patti Gross welcomes Rabbi Ed and Mindy Rosenthal to the gala benefitting the Coral Reef Foundation.



Above, fressers take a break from the Jewish Food Extravaganza on Feb. 28th to watch comic film clips about Jewish eating before returning to the social hall for ... dessert.

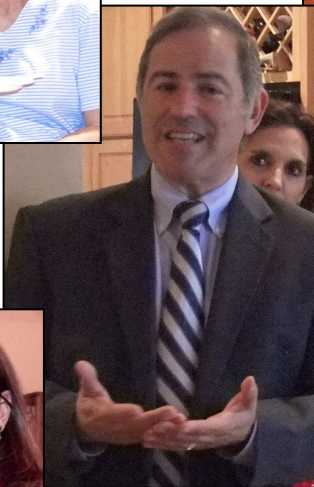


Shabbat Across America

KJCC celebrated “Shabbat Across America and Canada” with a Havdalah service at the home of Linda Pollack. At right, Susan Ellner and Lee Schur point to the KJCC name listed on the poster along with hundreds of other participants from across the continent.



At right, Muriel Swartz and hostess Linda Pollack enjoy a joke and a nosh. In the center, Rabbi Ed Rosenthal, who drove in from Tampa with his wife Mindy, started off our evening with an enthusiastic lesson. Just below, our two Mindys married to rabbis finally had a chance to meet.

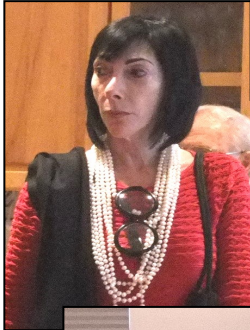


A smiling Mindy Agler shows her knitting — a blue baby blanket — to Mort Silverman. Below, Herb, Elinor and Erica were the evening’s Canadian contingent.

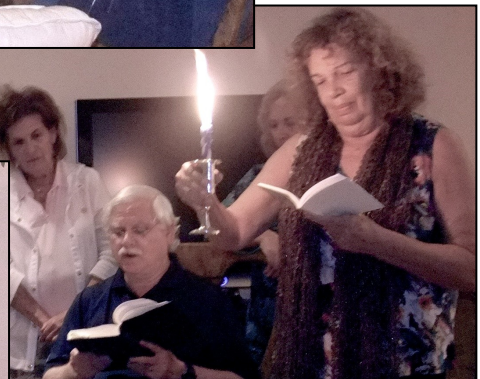
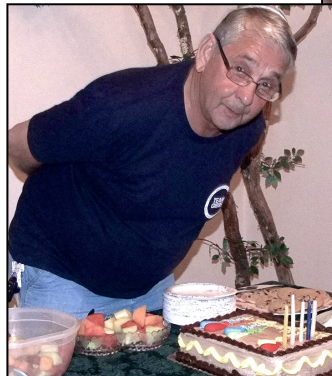


At left, Linda Perloff and Mitch Harvey enjoy a bit of Shabbat relaxation before the Havdalah service.





We bade farewell to Sabbath with food, drink, song, flame, wine, sweet-smelling spice, and a birthday cake for Steve Steinbock.



Playing With Clay for Passover



Every year for the last thirteen, our Keys Jewish Community Center women have been meeting and making ceremonial pieces for the special Women's Seder that precedes Passover.

Friendships deepen as our hands get muddy, and gentle Beth Kaminstein encourages our creative efforts. This year the project is matzah holders. They will be fired and glazed, then

rest alongside our candleholders, wine goblets, soup bowls, and Seder plates on April 10th as we celebrate and honor one special woman among us. Bring your friends and best food. Co-ordinate and RSVP with Erica Lieberman-Garrett.

We are committed to repairing the world. As usual, all profits will go to agreed-upon charitable causes that work for the good of women and children. Be with us as we sing our favorite song, "Dayenu," catch up with old friends, embrace our creative selves, and enjoy the most delicious meal as we advocate for justice, peace and freedom throughout our world.

- Gloria

Itzhak Perlman Concert

We made the pilgrimage to the Arsht Center's Knight Hall to hear and see famed violinist and cultural icon Itzhak Perlman, but found much more. Perlman is celebrating the year of his 70th birthday by giving himself a good time. He was clearly relaxed, sporting a red tunic rather than a tuxedo, joking with the lighting crew, his fellow musicians and the audience.



I had seen him perform before, both live and on PBS, but this was special. On stage with him was Andy Statman, the acclaimed mandolinist and clarinetist, whose CD "Between Heaven and Earth" was chosen as one of the top ten of the year by the New York Times. Together they did a "dueling strings" - mandolin versus violin - that blew us away.



Joining these two greats on stage were vocalist, accordionist and violinist Michael Alpert (yes - he is all three), who provided the running commentary, and the Klezmer Conservatory Band. Singer Judy Bressler, one of the band's founders, could have been a star in her own right. The clarinetists made their small instruments perform powerful, evocative magic. At the end of the night, Itzhak Perlman asked that the house lights be turned on so that the audience could dance at their seats, and so we did! - Joyce





KJCC Meditation Garden

Our extended brick walkway is in place. Come and spend some time walking around our peaceful and beautiful Meditation Garden. Bricks and benches can be purchased as honorariums or memorials and as gifts. Trees line the walkway and are available for dedication to our loved ones or to memorialize a happy occasion.

Also newly dedicated is our Orchid Pergola. We invite you to become a part of this fresh undertaking. Make your donation toward a new and beautiful orchid. The orchid will be tagged with the name of the donor and the name of the person being honored or remembered.

Information regarding pricing for orchids, bricks and benches can be obtained by visiting our website, keysjewishcenter.com.



Kosher for Passover?

by Joyce Peckman

Passover was always the time for spring-cleaning in my kitchen. Cupboards, refrigerator and freezers were cleared out and washed down. Open boxes and jars along with year-old frozen no-longer-edibles were tossed; anything sealed that was not kosher for Passover was donated to the local food bank, or boxed or bagged and brought to the shed or basement. So what remained? Fresh fruit, salad, leafy and root vegetables are always good.

The basic rule is that any product that is fermented or can cause fermentation may not be eaten, including five grains: wheat, rye, barley, oats, and spelt. Any food or drink that is made from one of these grains or that contains one of these grains, even in very small quantity, is considered *chametz*.

When quinoa was imported from South America, Star-K's Rabbi Heinemann researched and discovered that this sesame-seed looking kernel is a member of the beet family, and is not a grain. Gluten-free, loaded with calcium, iron and protein, and cooked like rice, quinoa has become a staple in many homes during Passover.

Then there is the issue of *kitniyot*. The word means "small things." Ashkenazi Jews follow the custom of not eating *kitniyot*: rice, corn, legumes like beans and lentils, peanuts, and vegetables in the pea family. This tradition has several possible origins. There was a fear that these small items, stored in sacks and barrels adjacent to grains, would get mixed together. Also, these foods swell when cooked, which resembles the leavening process, thus violating the rule that Jews should

avoid even the appearance of impropriety. That eliminates most vegetable oil, leaving only cottonseed, grape seed and olive oil for salads and cooking. You don't realize how many foods contain corn syrup until you walk down the supermarket aisles looking for the little "OU- P" on the container. Coca Cola puts out special soda for Passover, using sugar instead of corn syrup. Stock up on it if you remember how good soda used to taste!

Sephardic tradition allows these foods to be eaten, so rice is often found in their chicken soup instead of matzah balls. Since it is tough to be a vegetarian without eating *kitniyot*, many people temporarily become Sephardic that week. In Israel, the Conservative movement has allowed *kitniyot* to be eaten

even by Ashkenazim on Passover.

"Seven days there shall be no leaven found in your house." (Exodus 12:19) That means vacuuming the crackers from under the sofa cushions and emptying the cookies from desk drawers. (What about finishing the whiskey?) But there is always something missed, and in a modern age of freezers that preserve food, the rabbis decided that it is sufficient to put the sealed *chametz* in a separate, closed-up place, and sell it to a non-Jew before the holiday. Often a rabbi acts as the agent. The sale is real, in that theoretically the buyer can come and ask for the food, and pay for it after Passover. Right after the holiday ends, the rabbi buys the food back and the sale is voided. Rabbi Zucker has arranged for me to sell my *chametz* for years now, and my alcohol has never been confiscated. ◇



KJCC Annual Family Passover Second Seder



Saturday, April 23, 2016 6:30 pm

Islamorada Fishing Club

**Guest Cantor
Barry Skolnick**

For information and reservations contact

Erica Lieberman-Garrett

hippiejap@hotmail.com, (305) 853-1003.

Mail your check to KJCC Sisterhood at PO Box 116,
Tavemier, FL 33070.

Your check is your reservation. Reserve early as we will
be opening this to the public after April 1st.
Vegetarian options are available - please request when
making your reservation.

PASSOVER

Donations:

Members: Adults \$50; Children 12 and under are our guests.

Non-Members: \$50

Our Holocaust Torah Celebration Day

L'dor Va Dor

by Gloria Avner

If you had been an observant seagull flying over the KJCC parking lot on the evening of March 13th, you'd be forgiven for thinking a wedding was taking place, or that our congregation was in the thick of prayers for The Days of Awe. We were that full. And there was plenty of awe. Toddlers to school-children to young adults, elders, and our centenarian Pauline, a *shul* full of members, some that we hadn't seen for 30 years, were celebrating what for most would be a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Each of us was writing a Torah, fulfilling the last of its 613 *mitzvahs*: "Write for yourselves this song" (*Deuteronomy 31:19*).

Who expected so many to come back for the closing ceremony? We were hoping for a double *minyan*. Our sanctuary had been full of activity all day, starting at 8:30 a.m. More than fifty families were scheduled to "scribe." We overflowed – with joy and tears, with laughter, hugs and stimulated minds. Look at the glowing, intense, engaged faces of our people as they pass from station to station. (Of course there were seven of those; long live the Jewish sacred number.)

Well over a hundred people participated, not just in the writing but in myriad other enriching



Above, scribe Rabbi Selwyn's tools of the trade mingled with iconic KJCC written words: list of names, Chai-Lights, Siddur, Torah. (Soul food.) Below, the display that greeted everyone as they entered.





activities. And people who had not made appointments also came; miraculously, room appeared for them to scribe as well. It was a day "bashert."

We moved in a circle, starting with a warm *Welcome* table (hosted in turn by Linda Pollack, Donna Bolton, Art Itkin, Lee Schur, Susan Ellner and Joel Bofshever) and a photo display tour of our Holocaust Torah's journey, starting with its arrival at KJCC 33 years ago. (Many thanks to Dr. Steve Smith for researching and compiling a book on our Torah's history.) The photos continue through our Susice Torah's repair and return at a reunion with 26 other saved Torahs, also in American shuls, and a preview peek of what holding the feather and writing with a scribe will look and feel like.

Moving inside the



sanctuary to the *Education* station, there are videos to watch (including one of a *soferet*, a rare female scribe, sharing the intricacies of scribing), beautiful books to look at, handouts on the deeper meanings of Hebrew alphabet letters and more, all facilitated throughout the day in shifts by Beth Hayden, Muriel Swartz and her daughter Diane, Medina Roy, and Yardena Kamely, who shared her knowledge of 2,000-year-old Hebrew calligraphy. Fascinating conversations took place until it was time to move on. Bless the tireless facilitator Toby Bofshever, who helped people through the ritual *Handwashing* station, meant to bring an extra



measure of holiness to the act of writing with our scribe. And then, it was on to the main event, or in the poetic words of Deuteronomy, "And now you

shall write for yourselves a new Song."

From Rabbi Selwyn's first greeting, each knew they were in for a warm and moving experience. He talked about his own awe at the beauty, history and



age of our Torah. Did each scribing family get to choose its own letter? No. The founder of *Sofers-On-Site*, the group that re-koshered and restored our Torah to full beauty, Rabbi Gedaliah Druin, had explained it to us this way:

Photos at the Welcome and Education stations.



Photos at the Education and Hand-washing stations



letter selection is by God's lottery. At first I smiled; it sounded like a joke. Now I am purely in awe.

Every person walking away from their writing, letter in hand, looked



moved, a combination of dazed and inspired. How did this happen? If you were there, you know. Each scribe, welcomed immediately afterwards at the *Mazel Tov* station by Mitch Harvey and Linda Kaplan, told (and wrote, in a beautiful diary donated by Beth Hayden) of how his or her letter held perfect, deep and personal significance for them.

Ask Mitch or Erica or Judy Greenman and you will get a great story. Ask any of your friends who were there. Share with us your own.

It was a day that called for *koach*, a dose

of extra strength. It took a village. Over twenty KJCC stalwarts put forth tremendous effort both to prepare for and keep this event moving, stimulating, effective and meaningful for all the people who walked the circle to completion. It worked.

The next stop was *Donation* station, where Gene Silverman and Foster Davidson, magically, with reserves of spirit energy and without taking a break, had the honor of listening to people's experiences and helping them express both gratitude and generosity by facilitating their contributions and writing down the dedications they wished to make in honor and remembrance of loved ones.

One of the many purposes behind this event, beyond the necessity of honoring our



Torah and the people of Susice by preserving it, was not merely to pay the costs involved in the repair, but to provide as substantial a cushion as possible to help ensure our shul's survival into the next generation. It was an opportunity

for our generation to "pay it forward" for our grandchildren." May there be a KJCC long after those who put this event together are gone. And wasn't it wonderful to have so many multiple-generation families with us!

This day, more than anything, was about union and re-union. In February our restored Holocaust Torah had joined other restored 19th century Czech Torahs in a moving display of living and continuous Judaism. Then, after months



of a noticeable gap each time we opened our Ark, our Torah returned to KJCC to reunite with our congregation. And finally, through this day of celebration, our congregants re-connected to each other. There has never been anything like it. Look at “the three amigos” – David Goldfinger, Bob Temkin, and Stan Margulies – in smiling embrace. See brand new members (including one four-legged) embracing long-timers.

Founding members drove hours to be here. None of us can remember the last time we saw Joel and Sara Cohen’s daughter Sheila Steinberg and her husband Richard, but it felt as close to being with our temple’s founder as could be. Sheila could have used a whole box of Kleenex herself, but she was

the name on our *Tzedakah* Fund, hear now that she was our original matriarch, and daughter Sheila kept look-



ing at the faces and activity around us and saying “our mother would be so proud.”

There is a phrase we read and sing and hear repeated in the Torah and in our prayers:

“L’Dor VaDor.” In his Saturday morning services, Rabbi Agler

chants it and we repeat it, over and over. It is important. It means “from generation to generation.” Whether we keep kosher or not – whether we light candles, go to services, celebrate holidays, believe in

God, come to events, or not – what we all want to do as Jews, besides being good citizens who behave well in the world, is preserve our cultural heritage for the children and grand-



not the only one, nor were all the tearful people women.

We have not seen Pauline smiling much of late, but look at that youthful grin. And for those who only know the name Sara Cohen as



Photos at the Hand-washing station.





Sitting with the sofer and our Torah.

awe of that which we have inherited and were duly committed to repair.

But the day did not end with scribing or mazel tov or donating. Before leaving the sanctuary, there was the seventh station, *Creativity*. Two amazing artists, Marcia Kreitman in the morning and Natalie Dorf in the afternoon, encouraged, cajoled and supported all participants to leave a bit of themselves — a word, a symbol, a drawing,

children of ourselves, our friends and families. We want to do our part in repairing the world for them, but we also want them to treasure what has

been passed to us in an unbroken line for over 4,000 years. Of the more than 300,000 words in the Torah, each letter of every word remains exactly the same in every scroll, no matter how old or its country of origin.

In all extant scrolls, going back 2,000 years, there have been only nine variant letters in all those words, and not one of those has changed the meaning of the text. Scribes obey complex laws. They cannot write by heart, they have to say each word aloud before writing it, and they have to say a special prayer, with special intent, before writing the name of God.

I believe that each of us, sitting in front of the Torah on Sunday, facing Miriam's Song of the Sea, (we were scribing in the panel right next to it) celebrating our escape from slavery in Egypt, felt in our bones and our hearts the



a small, colorful piece of cloth that will be affixed to a long white prayer shawl, a sash that holds the Torah together known in Yiddish as a *gartel*. Ours was constructed, with each end beautifully embroidered to



commemorate this day, by the talented Elaine Schulberg. Kudos to all who took part in this activity! Our Torah will be wrapped in your collective embrace, as individuals and community, every time we have a *Yizkor* service or *Yom HaShoah* commemoration.



Did leaving the Sanctuary and the Seven Stations mean the event was over? Of course not.





The Social Hall beckoned, with Marc Bloom's ever-fresh coffee and Erica Lieberman-Garrett's thoughtful, day-long nosh buffet, healthy lunch, and post-program oneg. With coffee and delicious refreshments in hand, one could even sit

at a table with friends and watch the video testimony of Hanna Gruna, the last living survivor of Susice (via video), given in a riveting interview in 1979. We were well nourished, body and



soul, into the evening. Evening? Yes, back to the bird flying over our parking lot and looking at the overabundance of cars. Now she notices a parade. The people who have been coming and scribing and hugging and smiling and going all day are now singing and dancing on their way to the Meditation Garden with its meandering paths of sacred geometry embedded with names of our loved ones. I'm sure I am not the only one who felt the presence of departed friends and



family in the donated bricks and trees and orchids. What a joy to be singing in that setting, reunited with those who've gone before us, inviting them, too, to take part in our Holocaust Torah celebration.



One more time, we come back into the fold of the Sanctuary. Eve Knowles, indefatigable photographer and one-time star pupil of our Religious School, along with her assistant and our dear friend Carla Williams, are nearly done with their gargantuan task of documenting this day. (Each





scriber left with a print-out commemorative photo of them with the *sofer*; Eve perfectly captured the radiant, happy faces of the scribes. I have seen all the photos. We cannot thank Eve and Carla enough.)

Joyce Peckman, who has been doing yeoman's work for weeks in preparation for this day and has been moving like the wind, catching many of the moments you see in these pages, can take a break now. *Sofer* Rabbi Selwyn shares more words of wisdom and his astonishment at the overwhelmingly positive attitudes and responsiveness of peo-

ple he has talked with throughout the day. KJCC president Sam Vinicur, who has spearheaded the planning and execution of this

event for more weeks and hours than he would care to remember, shares his awe and gratitude for all helpers

and contributors who helped make the day as deeply meaningful and productive as it has been. Yardena and I sing, along with the congregation, two rounds of "Eli Eli," and then it happens: The Grand Finale.

We break into song and start dancing the *Hora* in the aisles to *Hava Nagila*.

There is little

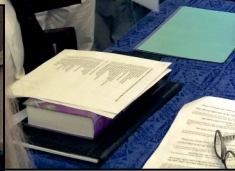
remaining to be done or said. The Torah has been paraded and kissed by everyone and returned, once again perfect, to its home. Beautiful certificates will be mailed to all who scribed and thankful notes sent to our donors. By Jewish fiat, there is more dessert to be consumed, but truly, we are already filled to the brim - with gratitude. ◇



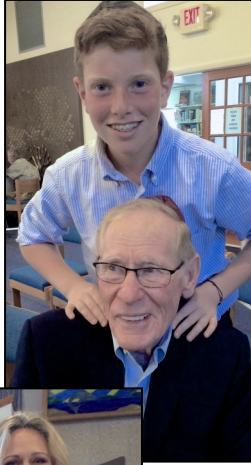




**The end of scribing,
and then the Mazel
Tov station.**



At and around the Donation station.





The final of seven stations — Creativity, where Marcia and Natalie helped scribes, after a profound experience with the Torah, make art.





And so a long and memorable day ended. The last few details were tended to by the sofer. We carried our Torah into our beautiful Meditation Garden, we went back into a lovely oneg provided by Sisterhood. We ate, we laughed, we were all a little changed. It was a good day. And it helped us provide such days for those who will come after us.



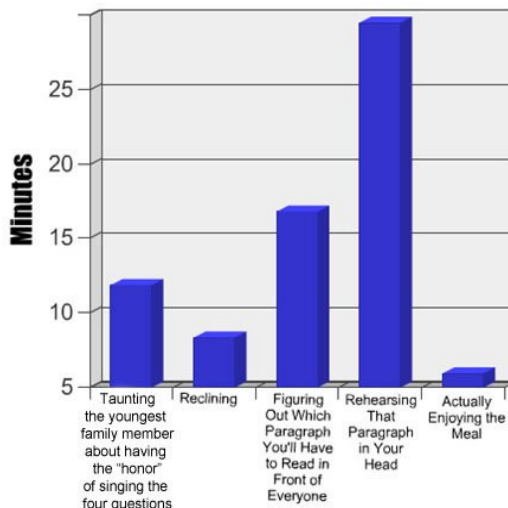
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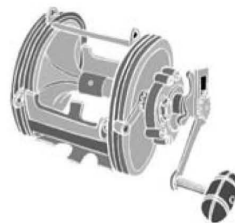
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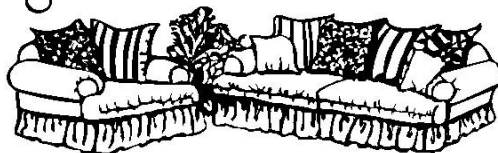


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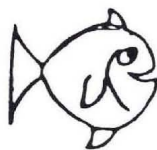
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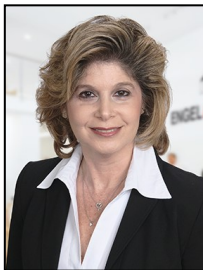
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