



The Shofar

July-August, 2015

Congregation House of Israel

14 Tammuz - 16 Elul, 5775

One of the highlights of the recent WUPJ international convention held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil was the May 14th evening tribute to Jerry Tanenbaum on the occasion of his retiring as Chair of the Yad B'Yad Task Force for Latin American Jewry. Rabbi Roberto Graetz, a native of Argentina and the rabbi of Temple Isaiah of Lafayette, California will become the new Chairman of Yad B'Yad.

Just over a decade ago, Progressive (Reform) Judaism was still an emerging Jewish religious approach in Latin America with few congregations and little infrastructure. Progress since then has been extremely noteworthy, largely due to the tenacity of the WUPJ's leadership in the region as well as the dedication of a North American based WUPJ support team, Yad B'Yad (Hand in Hand), which was established by Jerry and Pat (z"l) Tanenbaum and Steve and Sandy (z"l) Breslauer.

During the Tanenbaum era, Yad B'Yad has facilitated the flowering of the Latin American community through missions, fundraising and strategic planning.

With the help of Yad B'Yad, the WUPJ-Latin America region has been able to send emerging leaders to the Saltz Center in Jerusalem for training. In addition, Yad B'Yad has provided the means for cantors to establish the La Shir B'Nefesh cantorial chorale, which travels throughout Latin America, performing Jewish music.

Other highlights of Jerry Tanenbaum's tenure include the beginning of the translation of the Plaut Torah Commentary into Portuguese; the hiring of a full-time Executive Director for the region and working with Fundacion Judaica and the AIP (Association Israelita de Pampas) in Argentina to expand the WUPJ's impact in the Argentinean Jewish community.. as well a work in Chile - Northern South America and the Union of Jewish Congregations of Latin American and the Caribbean.



Jerry Tanenbaum has chaired Yad B'Yad since its inception, and has supported and led the task force with verve and dynamism for over a decade. Jerry Tanenbaum, of Hot Springs, Arkansas, also served as the Chair of the North

American Board of the World Union.

During the evening tribute World Union President, Rabbi Danny Frelander, praised Mr. Tanenbaum for his lifetime of devoted service to the World Union and announced that the Yad B'Yad Fund will officially be changed to the Jerry and Pat (z"l) Tanenbaum Yad B'Yad Fund for Latin America.

The celebration included tributes from long-time friends and associates, musical performances by Latin American cantors and a special tribute in song by Jerry's grandson, Adam Tanenbaum. The evening captured the love and human warmth felt for Jerry Tanenbaum by the entire World Union Family.

Thank You

We would like to thank the following donors (as of June 20, 2015)

General Fund

Carol and Shelly Kleinman

In loving memory of Marcia Prushansky

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In celebration of the first birthday of Simone Sheridan Surfes

Diana Surfes

In celebration of the birthday of Les Surfes

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In loving memory of Charles Bellin

Bob and Elaine Gartenberg

In loving memory of Louise Levi

The Shofar

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Hal and Sue Koppel

In loving memory of Louise Levi

Evelyn McQueen

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David D. and Karen Reagler

In loving memory of Louise Levi

James and Adriana Schimming

In loving memory of Louise Levi

Betty and Louis Kleinman

In loving memory of Louise Levi

Saralee Stark

In loving memory of Jim Stark, Jerry Garland, Hannah Garland

SISTERHOOD FUND

Barbara Morgan

In loving memory of Jonathan B. Morgan

Thank You so much to **Joanne and David Reagler** for donating a walker to CHI, It will be kept in the closet across from the water fountain. It's there to help anyone who might need to use it. Please return it to the closet when you are finished with it.

From the Rabbi



As we are all aware, congregational life has its ebbs and flows. We will suffer an “ebb” in the next few months when our beloved Shelly and Carol Kleinman move to Dallas to be closer to family. How much they have done for CHI

over their years of the tenure. Producing the Shofar each month, answering phone calls to the temple, running the Sisterhood, serving as rabbi, publishing the Memorial Book each Yom Kippur, accounting for rabbinical and other expenses.... The list runneth over. It will take a community to assume the mantle of responsibilities they wore so competently and gracefully. As it says in the book of Samuel, “Their seats are empty and they will be sorely missed.”

Our Temple president, Stuart Fleischner, and the Board have met to address the gap their departure will leave. The challenges the Temple faces will be met. In addition, beginning in the fall, I have added a week to my visits each month. I’ll be in Hot Springs three consecutive Sabbaths; the other Sabbath (sometimes two) will be led by a guest rabbi or lay person. Jeanne and I look forward to sharing more time with all of you. Hard to believe -- I’m entering my fifth year of service to CHI.

But let us return to Carol and Shelly. Their contributions to our community’s welfare have been immeasurable. We are enormously grateful to them and their devotion to Judaism and the Jewish people. Let us pray that they continue to go from strength to strength and blessing to blessing in all the days to come.

From the President



Dear CHI membership,

Sometimes there are people who go above and beyond in volunteering for the better good!

In our case at CHI, Shelly and Carol Kleinman have done just that. They have taken on many tasks for our congregation that most of us take for granted. They have led services, managed the answering of the telephone, picked up and distributed the mail, written thank you’s and acknowledgements, sent E-Blasts and Yahrzeit reminders, organized the Memorial Book at the High Holy Days, performed bookkeeping, and published and edited the SHOFAR! And, many other functions that we all appreciate.

Unfortunately for our membership, they have sold their home in HSV and will be moving to Texas in July to be closer to family. They will be sorely missed by us all.

On behalf of the Congregation House of Israel, we wish them much love, happiness, and blessings as they move to this next stage of their life. Shelly and Carol have definitely been a blessing to all of us.

Sincerely,

Stuart Fleischner

Michael Douglas Credits Son and Dad at Genesis Ceremony

Actor Michael Douglas credited his son and celebrity father for helping him reconnect to Judaism as he accepted the Genesis Prize, “the Jewish Nobel,” in Jerusalem.

Douglas, an Academy Award winner, accepted the \$1 million award on Thursday night for his commitment to Jewish values and the Jewish people. His wife, the actress Catherine Zeta-Jones, and

children, Dylan and Carys, were on hand for the ceremony.

In his address, Douglas noted his new ties to Judaism at age 70.

He said his son’s decision to have a bar mitzvah “made me think and it made me strong. And for that I will always be grateful.” His voice broke as

Continued on page 5

ARZA- World Union

The results of the World Zionist Congress elections are in, and we are proud to report that ARZA was the clear winner. We secured 56 seats out of a possible 145 – almost 40% of the U.S. delegation, and as many seats as the next two slates combined. Thank you for your passion, your commitment, and your work.

This is a great victory for Progressive Judaism in Israel, and for all those who care about this important cause. We are now able to join with others who share our vision and continue to work for the causes and issues about which we care so deeply.

We campaigned on important issues such as religious freedom, gender equality, and a two state solution. Now we can proudly say that our delegation—the largest of the U.S.—will come together in October in Jerusalem to express our passion and involvement as well as our concern for the future. Our success in these elections comes at a critical moment for current events in Israel.

Brief Analysis:

We, the Reform and Reconstructionist movements, received almost 40% of the votes which means that liberal Judaism will hold a solid majority in the World Zionist Congress this October.

At the Congress, American Jews will have the opportunity to express their strong feelings about the issues close to our hearts, and then work to affect change in those areas. We will be one step closer to making Israel the Jewish state that we know it can and should be.

As a reminder, the results of this election help determine our influence in Israel's national institutions, the World Zionist Organization, the Jewish Agency for Israel and the Jewish National Fund. Our team, led by the leadership of ARZENU (ARZA's umbrella organization of worldwide Reform Zionists), will now begin the process of negotiating with Israeli political parties and determining our positions based on the power that you, our voters, provided.

Acknowledgements:

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to all those who voted and who worked to get out the vote. We would like to also thank the superb lay and staff team led by Michael Laufer, Philip Meltzer and Rabbi Karen Fox as well as our campaign manager, Ilana Kaplan. Our sincere appreciation goes out to the ARZA staff, and the lay leaders who demonstrated dedication and perseverance through this long and often arduous campaign.

This campaign would not have been successful without the leadership of the Reform Movement, led by Rabbis Rick Jacobs, Aaron Panken, Steve Fox, Danny Freeland, Jonah Pesner and Rabbi Deborah Waxman of the Reconstructionist Movement. Our leaders in Israel—Rabbi Gilad Kariv, Anat Hoffman, Rabbi Noa Sattat, Yaron Shavit and Reuven Marko, as well as Rabbi Larry Englander and Dalya Levy of ARZENU—worked tirelessly to bring messages of importance to our movement stateside.

Of course, we would not be anywhere without our congregational leadership. We cannot thank enough the hundreds of rabbis, cantors, educators, youth directors, executive directors, administrators, and congregational election teams for all that you did to galvanize your members, families, and friends to come together at this important moment. Every vote made a difference, and we were honored and humbled by your efforts.

This campaign was indeed an investment in Israel's future, and we offer our deepest thanks to the hundreds of investors and donors who saw with us the need to run a robust and well-funded campaign. We met our goal and were able to maintain fiscal responsibility, and are happy to report that your efforts and investments paid off. Below you will find the breakdown of votes, and we will be posting on our website further analysis of what this means and how it has changed since the last election.

As the results have now come in, let us rejoice by proclaiming, "This year in Jerusalem!"



Welcome New Members

CHI is pleased to welcome our newest members:

- **Rich and Paula Alan** who live in Hot Springs Village. Rich is retired from real estate and Paula was a teacher. She not only plays Mah Jong – she’s also eager to teach. Rich is interested in communications and computer work.
- **David and Glenda Kirsch** moved to the Village a few months ago, and both list their occupations as “retired”. David is interested in communications, education. Glenda is enjoying pursuing her interest and skill in embroidery, quilting, needlepoint and knitting.

Michael Douglas

continued from page 3

he thanked Dylan, who had his bar mitzvah last June, and later his whole family for their support.

“My journey to this stage was a long time in the making,” Douglas said, adding that it led him “to be able to say those four words with great pride: I am a Jew.”

He said his father, the actor Kirk Douglas, also inspired him, having also reconnected to Judaism at 70. Kirk Douglas had a second bar mitzvah at 83.

“There was no contradiction between his Jewishness and his universality,” Douglas said of his father, who offered a videotaped greeting for the ceremony.

Douglas said he will use the prize money to reach out to other Jews from intermarried families seeking a connection to the Jewish community. He announced grants to Hillel and the Jewish Funders Network for programs that reach out to intermarried children and couples.

Jay Leno, who hosted the inaugural Genesis Prize ceremony, told the audience that he considers himself “Israel’s Shabbos goy,” and remarked that

From the Editor

How time flies when you’re having fun.

It is with very mixed emotions that Shelly and I share with you all that we have sold our house in Hot Springs Village and will be moving to Frisco, Texas in mid-July to be closer to our children and grandchildren.

While we had originally thought this wouldn’t take place until the end of the year, due to a cancellation our builder offered us the opportunity to switch to the same floor plan, but in a home that is already finished.

We are currently living in a neighbor’s house who is out of the country for two months, and it has been lovely. BUT – I miss my own bed and my own things.

We cannot begin to express what CHI and our congregational family have meant to us. When we moved here nine years ago, we were so warmly welcomed and made a part of the community.

The Shofar has been our “baby” for about 7 years. It’s been so great to see it go from a 2 page bulletin to what it is today. For that I thank you all for sending in your articles, pictures, etc.

CHI is a very special congregation. People really care about each other and take care of each other. Who would have ever guessed that this small community of 60+ families would truly know the meaning of inclusion, tzedaka and family.

Thank you to everyone for allowing us to serve this wonderful congregation.

Carol

Albert Einstein was smart for turning down an offer to become the first president of Israel.

“Einstein knew it was easier to figure out the mysteries of the universe than to keep Israeli voters happy,” he quipped.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

Lou Siegel	Jul 3
Simone Sheridan Surfes	Jul 10
Les Surfes	Jul 12
Sue Koppel	Jul 13
Barbara Schlesinger	Aug 2
Melissa Lax	Aug 8
Millie Baron	Aug 12
Anthony Nicolosi	Aug 21
Fran Rephan	Aug 21
Diana Surfes	Aug 24
Cynthia Rephan	Aug 28
Hal Koppel	Aug 30
Fred Korngut	Aug 30
Ruth Sedler	Aug 31

Anniversaries

Millie Baron and Mick Stoyanov	Jul 14
Barbara and Norm Bushee	Jul 15
Kim and Yossi Baron	Aug 16
Annette and Ken Baim	Aug 19
Elaine and Bob Gartenberg	Aug 19

Refuah Shelema

The following people are in our thoughts and prayers:

- David Reagler
- John and Leslie Jamieson
- Barbara Diebel
- Louis Kleinman
- Sally Nicolosi

Please offer prayers that they all have a full and speedy recovery.

If you are aware of anyone needing spiritual or any sort of assistance, please let Barbara Morgan know. Our Caring Committee is here to help all of our members in any way we possibly can.

Oneg Thanks

Thank you to the following for sponsoring an Oneg during the months of July and August:

Jul 3	Barbara Bushee Sherrill Nicolosi
Jul 10	David Cohen Carol Kleinman
Jul 17	Kathryn Eisenkramer Patti Fleischner
Jul 24	Barbara Morgan Betty Forshberg
Jul 31	Joanne Reagler Karen Reagler
Aug 7	Fran Rephan Cynthia Rephan
Aug 14	Carol Levi Kay Fleischner
Aug 21	Marilyn Blumbeks Mary Klompus
Aug 28	Kim Baron Oded Grenman

Reminder: If you are scheduled for an upcoming Oneg and need to change dates, bear in mind that it is YOUR responsibility to find someone to switch with and to advise Carol Kleinman of the change.

The Golfer

A Reform Rabbi was so compulsive a golfer that once, on Yom Kippur, he left the house early and went out for a quick nine holes by himself. An angel who happened to be looking on immediately notified his superiors that a grievous sin was being committed. On the sixth hole, God caused a mighty wind to take the ball directly from the tee to the cup – a miraculous shot.

The angel was horrified. “A hole in one!” he exclaimed, “You call this a punishment, Lord?!” Answered God with a sly smile, “So who can he tell?”

July-August Yahrzeits

Kaddish Recited July 3rd

Molly Berkun

Mother of Ed Berkun

Vicki Seligman

Mother of Diana Surfas

Seligman Simon Seligman

Father of Diana Surface

Morris N. Bauman

Father of Cynthia Rephan

Louis Brown

Father of Betty Forshberg

Kaddish Recited July 10th

Ruth Holtzman

Mother of Harriette Korngut

Dorine Calcote Williams

Mother of Dennis Williams

Morris Schlesinger

Father-in-law of Barbara Schlesinger

Kaddish Recited July 17th

Arthur Harris

Grandfather of Barbara Morgan

Jim Stark

Husband of Saralee Stark

Kaddish Recited July 24th

Marcia Prushansky

Mother of Carol Kleinman

Virginia Gottlieb

Aunt of Barbara Morgan

Bernice Lockwood Goltz

Mother of Susan Siegel and Diane Goltz

Eugene "Gene" Kirsch

Father of Steven Kirsch and Uncle of Mark and Stuart Fleischner

Sandra Boley

Sister of Sherrill Nicolosi

Kaddish Recited July 31st

Joseph Zibrack

Father of Sharon Ball

Nelly Kass

Mother-in-law of Linda Kass

Kaddish Recited August 7th

Jacob Falk

Grandfather of Louis Kleinman

Israel and Rachel Barenblat

Parents of Betty Kleinman, Grandparents of Ira Kleinman

Etta L. Jacobson

Mother of Harriett Marcus

Deanna "Dee" Berkun

Wife of Ed Berkun

Kaddish Recited August 14th

Jonathan Morgan

Husband of Barbara Morgan

Jerry Garland

Father of Saralee Stark

Kaddish Recited August 21st

Meier Baron

Father of Yossi Baron

Selma Schneider

Grandmother of Elaine Wolken

Kaddish Recited August 28th

Laurence Lockwood

Cousin of Susan Siegel and Diane Goltz

Herbert Erwin Harris

Father of Barbara Morgan

Albert Louis Ruskin

Father of Phyllis Hearn

Samuel Jacobson

Father of Harriet Marcus

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