

**SAVE THE DATE:**



**Ski with the Rabbi  
Jerry Weider**

**FEBRUARY 2nd**

10:30 am

Base of the Gondola, JHMR



Jackson Hole Jewish Community

NEWSLETTER FOR THE JACKSON HOLE JEWISH COMMUNITY • JANUARY 2008

# Letter *from the Presidents*

*Endings and beginnings*

It has been an incredible two years for us serving as your co-Presidents. We certainly have enjoyed working with such a devoted group of individuals as our colleagues on the Board of Directors, and each of our members is fortunate to have such dedicated people working on our behalf. They drive us to think about direction and goals. And they evaluate and anticipate the needs to nurture our growth and carry forth our vision. We are pleased with the board's performance and accomplishments and even more proud of their discipline and creativity as we move forward. The issues that they tackled and seeds that they planted in 2006-07 will bear fruit for years to come. We say goodbye to outgoing board members Linda Wiener, Merle Lundy, and Karin McQuillan. Thank you for your dedication and diligence and for sharing your knowledge, experience, perspective and wisdom.

We owe special thanks to our interim Treasurer, Susan Foster, who stepped in and provided complete support for our office. We also thank Andrea Mazer, who as Executive Director has become the face of the JHJC, and for the level of professionalism she has brought to her new responsibilities. Al Zuckerman and Rachel Ravitz have been a pleasure to work with and proven to be capable Vice Presidents, and we are looking forward to the leadership which they will provide as your new

Presidents. We thank Mary Grossman, Steven Glass and Brent Blue for producing and printing our monthly newsletters.

We also recognize our past Presidents, Larry Thal, Linda Weil, Carol Mann, Phyllis Turtle and Rose Novak. Our strength now and in the future comes from the foundation that you cemented into place. Thank you for all that you have done and continue to do. We are honored to stand beside you. There are not enough words of appreciation for our Chazzan, Judd Grossman, one of the threads that binds our community. You lift us up and transport us to a new level. And to Rabbi Gerry Weider, who for much of this past year, has been our adviser, mentor and spiritual leader. Thank you so much.

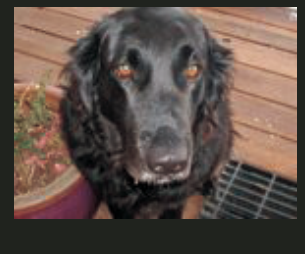
And most importantly, we thank you, our members. It is for all of you that we work. We rely on you and are responsible to you. We are grateful for your volunteerism, energy, financial support and commitment to our success. When you were asked to step up, you did. Our membership is deeper and stronger than ever.

Together we nurture and build community and ensure the bright future of Jewish life for ourselves and our children in this beautiful valley. As we begin 2008, we share the news of two exceptional donations by very special friends of the community. Diann and Tom Mann will be underwriting the Rabbi for the High Holy Days,

## Directors 2007

- Lisa Finkelstein, Co-President
- Dava Zucker, Co-President
- Rachel Ravitz Co-Vice President
- Al Zuckerman Co-Vice President
- Scott Stachel, Secretary
- Jen Daniels
- Mary Grossman
- Merle Lundy
- Shannon Thal
- Linda Wiener
- Carol Mann ex-officio
- Rose Novak ex-officio
- Larry Thal ex-officio
- Phyllis Turtle ex-officio
- Linda Weil ex-officio

### JEWISH PET OF THE MONTH



**Bella Thal**

If you have a pet that you would like featured in our newsletter, please e-mail a picture to [info@jhjewishcommunity.org](mailto:info@jhjewishcommunity.org).

## CALENDAR

### January 7: Annual Meeting.

Rabbi Lane Steinger from the Union for Reform Judaism will speak on the benefits of affiliation. 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall at St. John's Episcopal church.

### January 8: Board Meeting.

5:15 p.m. at the home of Jen Daniels. Potluck dinner.

### January 11: Shabbat with Rabbi Konheim and Chazzan Judd Grossman.

7:30 p.m. St John's Episcopal Church, small chapel. Oneg to follow.

### February 1: Shabbat with Rabbi Jerry Weider and Chazzan Judd Grossman.

6:00 p.m. St. John's Episcopal Church, small chapel. Oneg to follow.

### February 2: Ski with the Rabbi and adult discussion.

10:30 a.m. Meet at the bottom of the Gondola, JHMR.

### February 3: Bar/Bat Mitzvah class with Rabbi Weider.

9:30 a.m. Conference room, 480 S. Cache St.

## TID BITS

### JHJC Seeks Camp Director

We are looking for a camp director for summer 2008 for our two week summer day camp. The director will plan and execute the program, & hire and oversee counselors. The camp hours are 9 am – 4 pm daily for the weeks of July 21-25 & July 28-August 1. Must have experience working with children. Salary dependent on experience. Send resume to info@jhjewishcommunity.org. Contact Andrea Mazer for more information at 734-1999 or info@jhjewishcommunity.org.

### Annual Meeting

Our annual membership meeting will be held the evening of Monday, January 7, 2008. We will vote on new board members, discuss the State of the Congregation, and hear about the benefits of affiliating with the Union for Reform Judaism from our Regional Director Rabbi Lane Steinger. 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall at St. John's Episcopal church.

## VISITING RABBI TO COME JANUARY 11, 2008

Our visiting Rabbi for the month of January is Rabbi Jon Konheim from Baltimore, MD.

An ordained Rabbi for 30 years, Rabbi Konheim has served in a variety of communities including Duluth, MN; Cleveland, OH; Paterson, NJ; and Schenectady, NY. Rabbi Konheim has also been Director of Jewish Studies for a Jewish day school, prison chaplain, hospital chaplain, college lecturer, ski instructor, and Chaplain for the Paterson, NJ Fire Department which awarded him its Medal of Honor.

Born and raised in New York City, Rabbi Konheim received his BA in Government and International Relations from Carleton College, Northfield, MN. He was then commissioned in the U.S. Navy and served in various capacities in its

amphibious forces. Upon release from active duty, Rabbi Konheim enrolled in Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion and was ordained in 1972 and received a Master of Arts in Hebrew Letters. He became a member of the Rabbinical Assembly (Conservative) in 1978 and retains a secondary membership in the Central Conference of American Rabbis (Reform).

Rabbi Konheim enjoys skiing, bicycling, reading, music, and computer repair. He is married to the former Rena Saffren, an interior designer. The Konheims have two adult daughters, Hana and Adina.

Rabbi Konheim will lead Shabbat services on January 11, 2008 at St. John's Church (small chapel) at 7:30 p.m. Oneg to follow.



**Larry Thal leads the Chanukah blessings as the community enjoys a potluck feast.**



**Isaac Grossman and Adrienne Sugarman watch in awe as Presto the Magician performs magic at the 29th annual Chanukah party.**

**LETTER** from page 1

and Bonnie and Shelly Guren, along the Manns, are gifting us a new portable Ark, hand-crafted in Israel, to become home for our beloved Torah. We thank you for your generosity and thoughtfulness.

We are confident and excited about the future of the JHJC. Once again, it has been a pleasure for us to serve as your co-Presidents. As we pass the torch, we will remain on as board members and there is

much hard work ahead as we continue to grow and define ourselves. We want to thank all of you for your support. If we have not had the opportunity to meet you personally, please make it a point to introduce yourself to us.

Wishing you a healthy, joy-filled and prosperous new year.

*B'Shalom*

*Dava and Lisa*

**Thank You!**

We want to thank everyone for their generous contributions this past year to the Jackson Hole Jewish Community. Thank you to everyone who paid their annual membership dues. Your board of directors has voted to change the fiscal year of the JHJC to June 30 – July 1. Around these months is when we will ask you to renew your membership, but we welcome additional contributions any time of the year.

With your help, we are an active and growing part of the Jackson community.

**Many Thanks:**

**Temple Beth Elohim** for donating 100 Gates of Prayer siddurs to the JHJC.

**Rachel Ravitz** for her efforts to make our annual Chanukah party a success. Well done Rachel!

**Mary Grossman, Shannon Thal, EJ Hirschfield, Stephan Abrams, Russell Scott** for their help at our annual Chanukah party.

**Al Zuckerman** for leading the discussion at Shabbat services in December, and for being our December Shamus.

**Wedco Fabrications** and **Idaho Steel** for helping make a portable sign for the JHJC.

**Diann** and **Tom Mann & Bonnie** and **Shelly Guren** for donating a new portable Ark to house the JHJC Torah.

**Prayer for Healing:**

**Burton Grossman**

**JHJC Wish List:**

Synagogue Database program for our office computer: \$2750

Underwrite the Rabbi for February: \$1500



**JHJC president Dava Zucker meets Michael Chabon in November at the Library Foundation's "Page to the Podium" program. (Photo by: David Agnello Photography)**

**SURVEY RESULTS**

This summer we sent out a community survey to find out the community needs and wants. We thank the 40 individuals who thoughtfully filled out our survey.

1. *The JHJC currently rents an administrative office and holds events at various venues. Do you think we need our own synagogue/building to meet the needs of the Jewish Community?*

**Yes: 16      No: 21      Omit: 3**

2. *The Bet Sefer (Hebrew School) currently runs from September to May*

*and is held each Thursday from 4-6 pm.*

*Do you feel your child was/enriched and learned about Judaism through their experience?*

**Yes: 8                      No: 0**  
**Omit: 32**

*Should classes be expanded?*

**Yes: 4                      No: 6**  
**Omit: 30**

3. *The JHJC sponsors a summer day camp for two weeks each summer. If you have had a child involved in the camp, did it fulfill your needs and expectations?*

**Yes: 11                      No: 2**  
**Omit: 27**



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www.JHJewishCommunity.org

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Suite 6, Jackson Hole  
Office hours are by arrangement.



*The Jackson Hole Jewish Community is committed to creating a diverse Jewish presence that unites us, celebrates our faith and promotes tolerance in the greater Jackson community. We strive to engage all families and individuals in spirituality, education, tzedakah and the joys of Jewish life.*

## **Upcoming**

# **SHABBAT SERVICES**

### **January 11**

Rabbi Jon Konheim  
7:30 p.m.  
St John's  
Episcopal Church,  
small chapel.  
Oneg to follow.

### **February 1**

Rabbi Jerry Weider  
6:00 p.m.  
St John's  
Episcopal Church,  
small chapel.  
Oneg to follow.