

**Second Seder with
Rabbi Mike Comins**



**Tuesday, April 3
5:30 PM, Snow King
Grand Room**

The Jackson Kol



NEWSLETTER FOR THE JACKSON HOLE JEWISH COMMUNITY • MARCH 2007

Letter from the Presidents

March is upon us and Purim is our next celebration. With the charitable tradition called Matanot l'Evyonim, our Bet Sefer will be creating baskets to take to the children who arrive at the Community Safety Network safe house. The packages will include essential items that the kids may have had to leave behind: Toiletries, pillowcases, snacks, and toys. Purim reminds us to be connected to our community and neighbors and to help each other.

Looking back at February, which seemed to fly by all too quickly, there were many wonderful events. The Bet Sefer Shabbat was a job well done by all the kids and teachers. For the parents, it was truly special to watch their youngsters play an active role in being Jewish and celebrating our culture by leading the service. Thank you to all who helped make this happen.

A highlight of the month was a special visit from Rabbi Jerry Weider, visiting from Park City, Utah. He led Shabbat services with Judd (of course), led a Torah discussion, then had a Sunday "ski with the Rabbi" to

top off his visit. We are hoping to have Rabbi Jerry back for a few more Shabbat visits. Please see his column in this newsletter for more inspiring words.

Shoshanna Bryen, Director of Special Projects at the Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs, gave a lecture/discussion on February 20 on "What Will Iran Do if They Get the Bomb?" Ms. Bryen also holds conferences on military strategy for the US Army War College and had recently returned from a trip escorting U.S. Generals to Israel to assess the strategic situation there. Her talk was very thought provoking, with many fresh ideas and insights.

Lastly, we are looking forward to another warm home style Shabbat on March 23rd led by Carol Mann at the Turtle residence. We look forward to seeing you there. Enjoy the early spring thaw and join in the Festivities of Purim.

*B'Shalom,
Lisa and Dava*

Directors 2007

- Lisa Finkelstein, Co-President
- Dava Zucker, Co-President
- Rachel Ravitz Co-Vice President
- Al Zuckerman Co-Vice President
- David Mayers, Treasurer
- Scott Stachel, Secretary
- Brent Blue
- Jen Daniels
- Mary Grossman
- Merle Lundy
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- 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



Meet **Allie Chapman, Patty and Larry Chapman's** 5 year old Portuguese Water Dog

CALENDAR

March 7: Board Meeting. 5:15 p.m.
downstairs conference room 480 S.
Cache St.

March 23: Shabbat with **Carol Mann**
and **Chazzan Judd Grossman** at the
home of Phyllis and Howard Turtle.
5:30 p.m. Please call the office for
directions. Childcare provided.

April 3: Passover Seder with Rabbi
Mike Comins and **Chazzan Judd**
Grossman. Snow King Resort, Grand
Room, 5:30 p.m. \$35 for adults, \$16
for children ages 5-12, free for chil-
dren under 5. Fully catered. Bring wine
if you wish. Contact the office for table
or seat reservations or send checks
along with a list of those attending to
PO Box 10667, Jackson, WY 83002.

April 5: Book Signing Fundraiser
with **Rabbi Mike Comins**, 6 - 9 p.m.,
at the home of Sandy Ressa & Susan
Foster.

April 28: Young Professionals

Bowling Night - Take Two. 9 p.m.
Elk's Bowling Alley. \$10 at the door.

Many Thanks, Mazel Tov
and condolences

Many Thanks:

- To **Al Zuckerman** for being the Shamus at the February 2nd Shabbat service.
- **Scott Stachel** for hosting the February Torah study at his home.
- **Jodie Domsky** for babysitting at the February 2nd Shabbat service.

Board Member of the Month Profile:

JEN DANIELS

1. JH interests

Continuing to dance (ballet as much as possible as I was a semi-professional ballet dancer) plus latin and country dancing. Skiing and hiking, and of course inner-tubing down snowy hills and sledging with my daughter Stella.

2. Why you joined the JHJC Board of Directors

I want to become more engaged in what is happening with the cultural & religious life of the Jewish community here. As a newcomer to the board and a relative newbie (going on 3 years) to Jackson part of my role is to look at basic assumptions we have made in our past and examine whether they still make sense with the changing faces in our congregation and larger community.

3. What you love about being Jewish

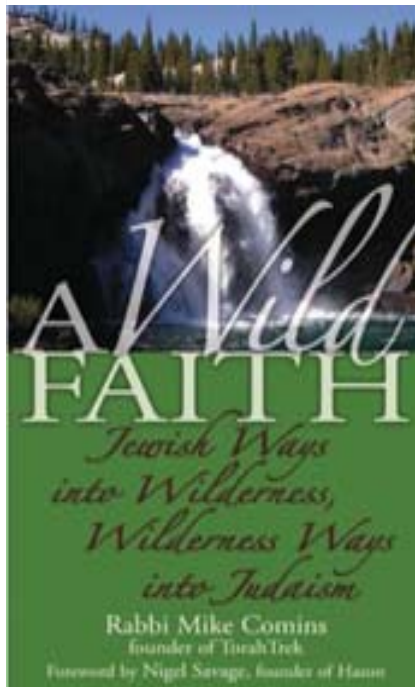
There is constant motion in Judaism. That it is not a stagnant religion by any means, and that we can always be questioning and challenging why and how we do things in our Jewish faith both culturally and spiritually.



4. What direction would you like to see the JHJC move in?

I would like to challenge our community to seek out new relationships with the broader community of Jackson as a whole thereby creating a richer experience for the JHJC/Chaverim. Upcoming opportunities could involve creating relationships with the Grand Teton Music Festival (Highlighting Jewish music and composers) and the Teton County Library (lecture series) or restaurants in town (Taste of the Jewish Kitchen) for example.

Book Signing Fundraiser with Rabbi Mike Comins



Thursday, April 5
6pm - 9pm

At the home of Sandy Ressa and Susan Foster

Celebrate Mike's new book, "**A Wild Faith: Jewish Ways into Wilderness, Wilderness Ways into Judaism**".

Mike will read an excerpt from his new book as well as sign copies hot off the press. This is a fundraiser for the JHJC.

Email jhjewishcommunity.org for directions and more information on Mike's new book.

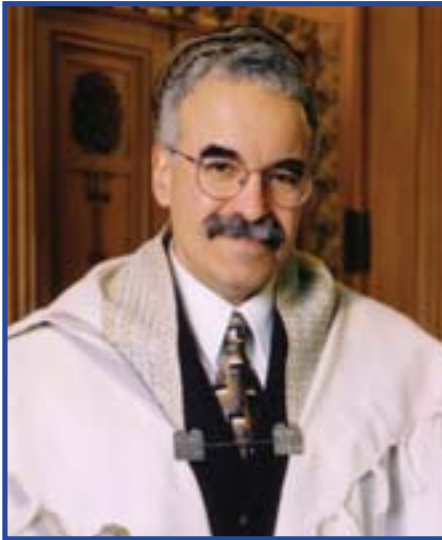
WEIDER'S WORDS

Purim is Coming, Let Us Celebrate & Be Proud

As we conclude February, Jews around the world are focusing on the celebration of Purim during March. On Saturday evening March 3rd the sounds of the Megillat Esther will echo through Jewish communities all over the globe. In reading the Megillah, and celebrating Purim, we are reminded of several important Jewish themes and obligations, both personal and communal.

First off we are reminded that Anti-Semitism is still a hatred that has not vanished from this earth. While we Jews in America are secure, world Jewry must still deal with the falsehoods and lies concerning the Jewish people, our Jewish religious practices, and the State of Israel. As such, it is incumbent upon us to learn basic Jewish history and religious belief so that when we are confronted with the distortions of Anti-Semitism, we are prepared to answer intelligently and coherently.

Secondly, Purim reminds us that we must work to strengthen our own Jewish community and to bridge the gaps that may divide or alienate some within our community. The Jews of Shushan averted Haman's plot against them by joining together to fight as a unified people. Only when everyone in the community (as led by Mordecai and Esther) fought back against those who would have killed the Jews, did



they succeed. Everyone was a part of this process and everyone in the community benefited in the end.

And lastly, Purim reminds us of our connection with our neighbors and with our overall world. We cannot sit idly and allow others to

repair the world around us. This is our task and a personal mitzvah that each of us must fulfill. The Purim custom of "Shalach Manot", sending presents of food to our friends, neighbors, and those in need in our community, is a great example of the Jewish concern for oth-

ers. Shalach Manot reminds us that we are not alone in society and that we must reach out to others and recognize the connection we have to our overall world community.

So as Purim approaches, I hope that the Jackson Jewish community will have good reason to celebrate and to act on the concerns that Purim calls to our attention. Indeed, Purim can be the perfect opportunity to bring everyone together for action programs that will benefit the entire community.

I hope you will celebrate Purim with gusto and with joy, but with an eye on the underlying values of the holiday.

Rabbi Gerald I. Weider

Senior Consultant to the Rabbinic Cabinet of the United Jewish Communities

TID BITS

Dead Sea Scroll Exhibit in Idaho Falls

The Museum of Idaho in Idaho Falls will host the *Ink & Blood: Sacred Treasures of the Bible*

exhibit beginning on March 16th. The exhibit presents authentic Dead Sea Scroll fragments, manuscripts and rare Bibles gathered from around the world to tell the story of the most printed book in history—the Bible in English. For more information visit:

<http://www.inkandblood.com/exhibit/overview/index.php>

The JHJC Gratefully Acknowledges the following Donations:

General Fund

To: **Dale Kaplan**

In memory of your beloved father
Austin List

From: *Maryann & Stuart Abrahams*

To: **Dale Kaplan**

In memory of your beloved father
Austin List

From: *Linda & Sandy Wiener*

Children's Fund

To: **Sarina Thal Scott**

In honor of becoming a Bat
Mitzvah

From: *Shawn & Mike Daus*

JHJC Wish List

- Sponsor our monthly Newsletter: \$100 (per month)
- JHJC personalized stationary: \$150
- External hard drive 100GB back up system for our office computer.



JACKSON HOLE
JEWISH
COMMUNITY
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JACKSON, WY 83002

Phone: (307) 734-1999
Fax: Same by arrangement
info@JHJewishCommunity.org
www.JHJewishCommunity.org

The office is at 480 S. Cache St.,
Suite 6, Jackson Hole
Office hours are by arrangement.



photo by Morris Weintraub

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.



Second Seder with Rabbi Mike Comins

When: April 3, 5:30 p.m.

**Where: Snow King Resort,
Grand Room**

**Cost: \$35 for adults, \$16 for children ages 5-12,
free for children under 5** (This is our cost, please pay what you can.
Everyone is welcome and no one will be turned away.)

The Seder will be fully catered, but feel free to bring wine (we'll provide the Manischewitz). To reserve your table or seats please contact the office or send cash or checks payable to the Jackson Hole Jewish Community to PO Box 10667 Jackson, WY 83002. Please include the names of those attending with your payment. For more information, call 734-1999 or e-mail: info@jhjewishcommunity.org.