



# Chaverim Newsletter

## Letter from the President

Shalom Chaverim—

We've just passed the busiest time of the Jewish year. It was a great pleasure to see so many of you at High Holy Days services and at the Break Fast. We also had many visitors at our services—from as far away as Iowa, Florida, and Israel. The Israelis spoke about Israel with our children and answered questions from adults as well. More than 100 attended services on each holiday.

One highlight of the holidays was the new Star of David “cross cover” made for us by Brent Blue. He said he hoped to inspire someone talented to make a really good cover, but I think Brent’s handiwork will see long service. It’s our own unique folk art.

About 40 people came to Sukkot at Laurie Thal’s and Russell Scott’s with decorations for the Sukkah. Judd led singing and prayers while we took turns waving the lulov. And then we all danced the hora. We had a superior lulov and etrog—very important in some circles—large, nice shape, good color, etc. More impressive because we order them by mail and have to depend on someone else to choose a them.

We celebrated Simchat Torah a week later. We just made a minyon—counting the Torah. Disappointing turnout, but we started the Torah cycle again. And then, because there were only ten of us, each danced for four, as forty is the usual atten-

dance. We danced together and with the Torah. There were no dogs or children. I didn’t miss the dogs, but we would have liked to see parents and kids turn out for one last brief celebration to cap off the holidays.

The headline event for October was Ben Dann’s Bar Mitzvah, our first! Great job Ben!

Mike will be here in November and Dan in December. Please call Barbara

Trachtenberg if you know of any community groups that would be interested in Dan’s storytelling. We are already working on the library and schools. The Board of Directors has committed to Mike and Dan for all of 2005. They will work together and plan for school and Dan will be with us for camp.

The Annual Meeting is coming up in January, when you will hear the “State of the Congregation” and elect Board Members. We hope to have a day-long Planning Retreat in January as well. We would love more comments on how we are doing.

May I remind you to get your dues, contributions, and school tuition to the Chaverim as soon as possible? And thank you if you have already done so.

I am in Oaxaca Mexico for the month, and if you think it’s unusual to be Jewish in Jackson...

## The Directors 2004

Rose Novak, President  
 Jessica Rutzick, Vice President  
 Ari Goldstein, Treasurer  
 Stephan Abrams  
 Phyllis Fisher  
 Sarah Kimelman  
 Carol Mann, ex-officio  
 Eve Scofield  
 Larry Thal  
 Barbara Trachtenberg  
 Phyllis Turtle, ex-officio  
 Dava Zucker

## Upcoming events

The Chaverim’s next event will be a Shabbat service on November 19, 6:30 p.m., at St. John’s Episcopal Chapel. There will be an oneg to follow in the St. John’s meeting room. If you are interested in sponsoring the oneg, please contact the office at 734-1999 or email at [info@jhjewishcommunity.org](mailto:info@jhjewishcommunity.org).

*Rose Novak, President*

## Calendar

**Every Thursday** — Bet Sefer, 4 p.m. at the LDS church.

**November 3** — Board meeting cancelled.

**November 18** — Rabbi Comins to visit Bet Sefer.

**November 19** — Shabbat service with Rabbi Mike Comins. St. John’s Chapel. 6:30 p.m. Oneg to follow in the Meeting Room.

**November 20** — Torah study. Meeting Room at St. John’s. 9:30 a.m.

Saturday Night at the Theatre. Wine and Cheese followed by a Mainstage production. Call the office for details.

**November 23** — **Newsletter deadline.** Please e-mail items to [info@jhjewishcommunity.org](mailto:info@jhjewishcommunity.org).

**December 8** — Board meeting, noon. Jessica Rutzick’s offices, 60 E. Simpson. All are welcome to attend.

**December 11** — Chanukah Party. 6 p.m. At St. John’s Fellowship Hall. Details to come.

**December 17** — Shabbat with Rabbi

Dan Gordon. St. John’s chapel.

### Warm Wishes

#### Congratulations to

- Linda and Sandy Wiener on the birth of their grandson, Erik Daniel Wiener.

#### Best wishes for speedy recovery to

- Scott Stachel

## Jodi Domsky’s Mitzvah Project

Jodi Domsky has put out the word that she is raising money for the American Cancer Society for her Mitzvah project. Jodi’s Bat-Mitzvah is scheduled for March 19, 2005. Jodi will be making and selling bracelets, with the proceeds going to the ACS. She would like your help in com-



pleting this project by buying a bracelet for a donation of \$5 or more. You can contact Jodi with your orders by e-mail at [sunuro@prodigy.net](mailto:sunuro@prodigy.net) or by phone at (307) 732-0055. This is a fabulous opportunity for us to help Jodi complete her Mitzvah project and also help those who are suffering from cancer.

## Treasurer’s Report

Inflows	Sept	YTD
Bet Sefer	375.00	475 00
Donations/Dues	4,100.00	42,269 00
Interest	89.15	464 69
Other	402.28	1,152 88
<b>Total Inflows</b>	<b>4,966.43</b>	<b>44,361.57</b>
Outflows		
Admin	4,993.64	21,434 06
Adult Education	-	204 45
Tzedakah	100.00	1,090 00
Insurance	500.00	500 00
Leadership	5,507.42	29,393 13
Religious Events	1,005.22	7,751 59
Special Programming	-	1,036 32
Summer Camp	-	15,072 45
Bet Sefer	540.19	5,012 63
<b>Total Outflows</b>	<b>13,646.47</b>	<b>81,494.63</b>
<b>Income Less Expenses</b>	<b>(8,680.04)</b>	<b>(37,133.06)</b>

## Old Bill’s Update

The final numbers are in, and this year, the Chaverim raised \$10,612.19 from 32 gifts made through Old Bill’s Fun Run, before the addition of the \$4990 in matching and other funds. The total check was for \$15,602, more than \$5000 over last year’s total. The Chaverim received 32 gifts, from \$10 to \$2500. Plans for using these funds include programs that promote diversity and tolerance, such as storytelling, discussion groups, and movies. (Under the terms of the grant, these funds may not be used for religious purposes.)

Thanks again to all of the donors, whose contributions can be used to foster greater understanding of the Chaverim’s place in our community.

### Saturday Night at the Theatre

The Jackson Hole Chaverim invites you to spend a Saturday evening at the Theatre with Rabbi Mike Comins and other members of the congregation. The Off Square Theatre Company is presenting *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* by Steve Martin, Saturday November 20 at 7:30 p.m. in the Mainstage Theatre. This contemporary comedy is a fictional account of a meeting between Einstein and Picasso just before they are about to become famous. The Chaverim will gather from 6 to 7 p.m. in the theatre lobby for wine and cheese (please bring your favorites), and then take in the show. This is a great chance to socialize with Rabbi Mike and your friends and neighbors. Please contact the office for details.

### St. John's Lay Chaplains Needed

St. John's Medical Center is seeking volunteers to serve as Jewish Volunteer Lay Chaplains at the hospital. Volunteers should be active members of their religious community, empathetic, good listeners, and able to deal effectively with stressful situations.

Volunteers are required to complete a training program and are requested to serve at least two hours a month visiting with patients, families, and staff of St. John's Medical Center. For further information on how to participate, please call Linda Fisher, Manager of Volunteer Services, at 739-7541.

### Battle of the Briskets

The highlights of the holiday meals (other than the joy and companionship of so many visitors and members of the congregation) were the generous portions of Brisket prepared by our own Brent Blue and Stephan Abrams. Each started with 50 pounds of Brisket (note to future holiday cooks, half of that was enough), and presented their masterpieces to worshippers after Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services. It is impossible to say which was better. Both Brent and Stephan have shared their recipes with us, but they are too lengthy to include in the newsletter. We have posted them on our website at [www.jhjewishcommunity.org](http://www.jhjewishcommunity.org). Click on Newsletter.



## Shabbat Service



Friday, November 19, 6:30 p.m.,

In St. John's Episcopal Chapel

Service conducted by  
Rabbi Mike Comins &  
Cantor Judd Grossman

Oneg to follow in the  
St. John's Meeting  
Room

## Jackson Hole Chaverim

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The office is at 575 S. Willow St. in Jackson.  
Office Hours:  
Tuesdays 11-2  
Or by arrangement.

*To blend the love we share for our natural surroundings with the joy of Jewish spiritual experience. We offer our members and guests communal prayer, Torah study, adult and youth education, Spirit of the Mountains Summer Day Camp, life cycle events, tzedakkak and holiday celebrations. We bring forward the informal, inclusive and nurturing sense of community on which our congregation was founded.*

**Time Sensitive. Please Deliver Promptly.**

## Chanukah Party Chair

Chanukah is a special time in Jackson Hole, since annual Chanukah parties were the precursor to the creation of the Chaverim. This year, like others, the Chaverim is planning a festive event to observe Chanukah and to bring the community together. We need your help to make this event a success.



If you watched your administrator run for forgotten candles on Erev Rosh Hashanah, you know that she doesn't have a clue about what is required for a proper Chanukah party. But with your help and direction, she will get it right, and we can have the best party yet.

If you are willing to give a few hours of your time to the community, Victoria would like to hear from you. We need help in all aspects of this event, but most importantly, we need someone to oversee and make sure nothing critical is forgotten. Please call 734-1999 or e-mail [info@jhjewishcommunity.org](mailto:info@jhjewishcommunity.org).