

## SAVE THE DATE:


**JHJC Annual  
Chanukah Party  
December 7th**

Details to come in our  
December newsletter.

# The Jackson Kol



NEWSLETTER FOR THE JACKSON HOLE JEWISH COMMUNITY • NOVEMBER 2007

## Letter *from the Presidents*

What a joy-filled autumn we spent together. We celebrated Sukkot and Simchat Torah and attended the bris of Benjamin Stam, the gorgeous son of Rachel and Wendell Stam. It has been wonderful to see old friends and exciting and rewarding to welcome so many new members to the Jackson Hole Jewish Community. Our community prospers with each and every one of you. Also, Katherine Sussman was called to the Torah for her Bat Mitzvah on Oct. 25 in Idaho Falls. For years, Elliott and Seth would drive Katherine and her brother Michael to and from Jackson each Thursday to attend Bet Sefer. We are so happy for Katherine and her family and celebrate her accomplishments.

As our beautiful valley grows quiet your board continues to busy itself planning events for the coming year. As part of our ongoing collaboration with the Teton County Library Foundation, the JHJC is proud to be a title sponsor for Pulitzer Prize-winning author Michael Chabon's visit on Nov. 29 and acclaimed poet Mary Oliver on May 8. It is through your generosity we are able to continue to help underwrite public and school programming with renowned writers and poets. Book clubs throughout the valley received free copies of Chabon's Pulitzer-win-

ning novel "Kavalier and Klay" to prepare for his reading. We encourage you to gift to the JHJC so that we may continue to be instrumental in this important programming. It is a pay-it-forward effort for our congregation. Together our investment and association in the Library Foundation projects - poet laureate Billy Collins, Chabon and Oliver - helps to enrich the greater Jackson community and promotes tolerance and diversity in our small valley. Community continues to be our mantra as we move ahead.

Join us on the 16th as the always-inspirational and insightful Carol Mann will be leading the monthly Shabbat service along with Chazzan Judd Grossman. Other upcoming save the dates: Dec. 7 for our annual Chanukkah Party and lighting of the Menorahs following a Shabbat service led by our friend and mentor Rabbi Jerry Weider. On Jan 7-9 Rabbi Lane Steinger will be visiting from St. Louis to discuss with the board and interested members our decision to affiliate with the Reform Movement and the process needed to realize that goal.

We are pleased to report that our general fundraising and membership campaigns were very successful. During August, we asked you to step up and you did. In record numbers.

## 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



### JED RIESER

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

**November 7: Board Meeting.** 5:15 p.m.

Downstairs conference room, 480 S. Cache St.

**November 16: Shabbat with Carol**

**Mann and Chazzan Judd Grossman.** 6 p.m. St John's Episcopal Church, classroom 1 (downstairs of the main sanctuary). Oneg to follow.

**November 22:** No **Bet Sefer** classes.

Thanksgiving break.

**November 29:** Pulitzer Prize winning

novelist **Michael Chabon** speaks at the Library Foundation's "Page to the Podium" series. 7 p.m. at the Four Seasons Resort. Tickets are free and are available at the Teton County Library beginning Nov. 1st at 10 a.m. Tickets are limited to 1 per library card holder, but you are most welcome to bring in a spouse or friend's card (or several friend's cards) if you would like to pick up for others.

**December 7: Shabbat with Rabbi Jerry**

**Weider and Chazzan Judd Grossman** followed by our annual **Chanukah Party**. Shabbat from 6 pm – 7 pm; Chanukah party will begin at 7 pm. Place and details TBA.

## TID BITS

**Meet our New Logo**

The JHJC has had a facelift! Thank you to Jen Daniels who spent hours revamping the JHJC logo.



**Chanukah Candles**

The office has boxes of Chanukah candles. The cost of one box of candles is \$6. To purchase, please call 734-1999 or stop by the office.

**Young Professionals Broomball Team**

The JHJC is putting together a Young Professionals Broomball team, and we want you to play! Games will be held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and will begin at the end of November or beginning of December (depending on when the ice is ready). If you are interested in playing, please contact Andrea Mazer at the JHJC office, 734-1999 no later than November 14. If you don't want to play, but have a clever name for our team, e-mail Andrea at [info@jhjewishcommunity.org](mailto:info@jhjewishcommunity.org).

## PULITZER PRIZE WINNING AUTHOR

### MICHAEL CHABON TO VISIT JACKSON

The Jackson Hole Jewish Community is a proud sponsor of the Library Foundation's "Page to the Podium" speaker series with Pulitzer Prize winning novelist Michael Chabon.

Chabon won the Pulitzer Prize in 2001 for his novel *The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay*. Just this month, Chabon published his latest novel, *Gentlemen of the Road*, a galloping adventure along the ancient Silk Road that first appeared as a 15-part serialized novel in *The New York Times Magazine*. Chabon launched his literary career at age 25 with the debut of his first novel, *The Mysteries of Pittsburgh*, which quickly landed on the *New York Times* Bestseller list. His second novel, *Wonder Boys*, was adapted into a film, starring Michael Douglas and



Tobey Maguire, in 2000. Two years later, Chabon published

*Summerland*, a fantasy novel written for younger readers. He published his next novel for adults in 2007, *The Yiddish Policemen's Union* – a "what if" proposition where rather than creating the state of Israel, Jewish refugees from around the world were given safe haven in Sitka, Alaska.

The talk will be held at the Four Seasons Resort on November 29th at 7 p.m. Tickets are free and will be available at the Teton County Library beginning November 1st at 10 a.m. Tickets are limited to 1 per library card holder, but you are most welcome to bring in a spouse or friend's card (or several friend's cards) if you would like to pick up for others.

## HIGH HOLIDAY 5768 COLLECTION UPDATE

This year the JHJC initiated a ticket program for High Holidays 5768. How did we do? The JHJC collected \$5,419 in tickets and donations. While we did not cover the cost of the services provided (\$12,000), we collected more money than we ever have in the past. Our goal was to raise awareness that there is a cost associated with everything our organiza-

tion provides. Thank you to everyone who paid for High Holiday tickets and sent in a donation. Our organization could not sustain itself without the generosity of our members and visitors to Jackson. We were blessed to celebrate the New Year with old friends and new faces. We look forward to seeing you throughout the year.

## WANTED: Treasurer for the JHJC

Term begins January 2008. This is a two year commitment.

Requirements:

Serve on the Board of Directors of the JHJC.

Be willing to donate approximately 12 hours a month, mostly at month end, to paying bills, reconciling the bank accounts and preparing

financial statements and an annual budget for the Board meetings.

Be comfortable with Quickbooks and Excel spreadsheets and Internet-banking.

Must be a stickler for details.

If you are interested please contact Andrea Mazer at 734-1999 or [info@jhjewishcommunity.org](mailto:info@jhjewishcommunity.org).

**LETTER** from page 1

Your message was loud and clear. With your membership pledges and contributions - at whatever levels you were able - you have made the JHJC a priority. We thank you for supporting our collective vision as we move forward. Once again, we ask you to step up. This time we are asking that you consider joining our board of directors. It is a 2-year commitment to be an integral part of the strategic planning for our congregation's future.

Your involvement is critical. Your voice is important. We are always reminded of our good fortune to live among such wonderful and generous chaverim. Together we will continue to grow and build and flourish and celebrate living a Jewish life in our beautiful valley.

*B'Shalom,  
Lisa Finkelstein & Dava Zucker  
Co-Presidents*

## SURVEY RESULTS

This summer we sent out a community survey to find out what you want and need from the Jackson Hole Jewish Community. We thank the 40 individuals who took the time to thoughtfully fill out our survey. Over the next few months we will publish the responses to our questions.

The answers to the questions below demonstrated to your Board of Directors that the majority of the community is in favor of affiliating with the Reform movement. The majority of those polled also felt that the JHJC should contract with one Rabbi to provide leadership and stability to the community.

While finding a Rabbi for the community may take some time, the Board has voted to affiliate with the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ). The application process is underway and we look forward to being a member of the URJ by summer 2008.

*1. Currently the JHJC is not affiliat-*

*ed with any Jewish movement.*

**Would you be in favor of affiliation?**

**Yes: 22      No: 10      Maybe: 1  
Omit: 7**

*If yes, which movement?*

**Reform: 26    Conservative: 3  
Orthodox: 2    Other: 2    Omit: 7**

*2. Currently we do not have a full-time Rabbi. Over the past few years we have been inviting various Rabbis to conduct services and holidays and have also had services led by lay-Rabbis and members of our own congregation.*

*Do you believe we need to contract with one Rabbi to provide leadership and consistency to our community?*

**Yes: 33      No: 7**

*Whether we affiliate or not, with what movement would you like the Rabbi to be most closely associated with?*

**Reform: 29      Conservative: 5  
Orthodox: 2      Other: 4**

## Be a Part of the JHJC Board of Directors

The Board of Directors is sad to see a few members of our team leave this winter, and we thank them for their dedication and hard work.

It is time to welcome several new members onto the Board. If you are interested in serving the JHJC in this capacity, please contact Andrea Mazer at 734-1999 or [info@jhjewishcommunity.org](mailto:info@jhjewishcommunity.org).

Qualifications: Full-time Jackson residence is preferable, but not required. Must be a paid member of the JHJC.

This is a working Board and you will be required to participate in at least one committee and/or hold one office. Meetings are kept to a minimum, but monthly reports from chairpeople are required.

Not interested in sitting on the BOD? Curious about how you can serve the JHJC? Call us and let us know your interests. We are always looking for members to volunteer and serve on a committee.

## The JHJC Gratefully Acknowledges the Following Donations:

### General Fund

To: **Lisa Finkelstein**

In honor of performing the bris of Benjamin Austin Stam

From: **Rachel & Wendell Stam**

### Many Thanks:

Laurie Thal for hosting our Sukkot celebration and the bris of Benjamin Stam.

**Dan Altwies** for building the beautiful JHJC Sukkah.

**Jen Daniels** and **Rick Fox** for hosting the October Oneg.

**Judd Grossman** for donating a Chumash to the Hospital Chapel.

### Deepest Condolences:

**Terry Romberg** on the loss of her beloved brother.

**Norman Wolff** on the loss of his beloved mother.

### JHJC Wish List:

Help underwrite the cost of the Chanukah Party: \$500 - \$1000

Synagogue Database program for our office computer: \$2750

### New Members 5768

The JHJC's mishpacha is growing. We have many newcomers to the JHJC as well as to the valley area. Welcome new members!

**Marjorie Agriss**

**Barbara, Gerry & Mark Aronowitz**

**Adena Chernosky**

**Julie, Paul & Travis D'Amours**

**Margaret & Louis Hochheiser**

**Andy, Elizabeth, Colby, David, & Bradford King**

**Etta Lindenfeld & Robert & Sandor Langer**

**Rita LaRoy**

**Dan & Deb Ochstein**

**Josh Robbins**

**Barbara & Elias Sedlin**

**Dahvi Wilson**



JACKSON HOLE  
JEWISH  
COMMUNITY  
P.O. Box 10667  
JACKSON, WY 83002

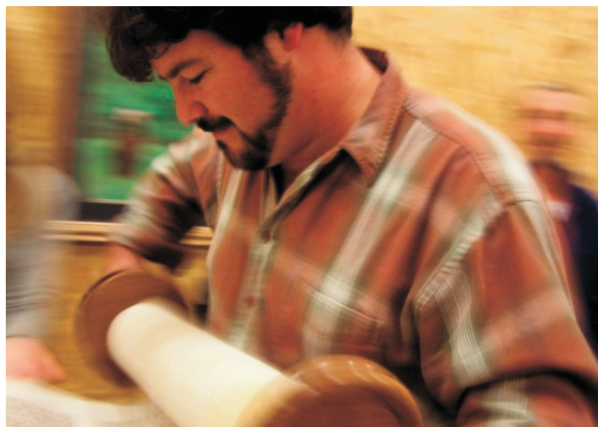
Phone: (307) 734-1999

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.



*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.*



**Rick Fox**  
unrolls the Torah  
during the  
Simchat Torah  
celebration.



**Members**  
of the JHJC help  
hold the Torah as  
the entire scroll  
is unrolled.