

SAVE THE DATE:

Shabbat
with Carl Levenson and
Chazzan Judd Grossman.
November 14
6:30 p.m.
St. John's Small Chapel

The Jackson Kol



Jackson Hole Jewish Community

NEWSLETTER FOR THE JACKSON HOLE JEWISH COMMUNITY • NOVEMBER 2008

Letter from the President

What a wonderful High Holiday season we had this year. I don't know about you but I felt a palpable sense of good feelings and the warm glow from being with those we've come to know as family from these services. Even during the Yom Kippur break fast there seemed to more than the normal amount of camaraderie and good fellowship. It might have just been me and my 4 or 5 trips back to the buffet table but people seemed to linger longer, visiting with this one or that one. Then again, it could have been brisket euphoria or a smoked salmon high brought on by 25 hours of fasting. A special thank you to Rabbi Stuart Geller for coming all the way from Israel to conduct our services. His warmth and sense of humor and his moving Utenah Tokef, that gave such deep meaning to the services, really set the tone for the Holidays. I especially enjoyed the Rabbi's accompanying the Torah carrier around the sanctuary sharing a kind word here and shaking a hand there.

The High Holiday services truly epitomize the spirit of the Jackson Hole Jewish Community. These services are the culmination of the efforts of so many people volunteering their time and resources. Think for a minute about all the folks that contribute to the existence of our community and you realize how grass roots this organization really is. And, although the community has grown in numbers, it has maintained its fundamental hands-on, do for yourself attitude that it had since the beginning, at services held by Larry Thal and others way

back when on the banks of the Snake River or at Chanukah parties at Blue's. Thanks to all of you who made these High Holidays successful and very special.

You know I would not be doing my due diligence if I did not do a little nagging here about membership dues. What with the High Holidays and family visiting and the frantic desire to squeeze out that one last hike or bike ride before the weather finally turns it is perfectly understandable if you have forgotten to pay your membership dues. So, it is my duty to noogie you with that gentle little reminder.

Please remember that Carl Levenson, philosophy professor at ISU and Lay Rabbi at our sister congregation in Pocatello, will be here to conduct Shabbos services along with Chazzan Judd Grossman on November 14th. Carl always conducts an interesting and educational service and it is one not to miss.

And finally, I cannot end this letter without a word of very special thanks to Rachel Ravitz, who, as you know, has been co-president with me for the last 8 months. Rachel has decided to step down from her role as co-president as she has suddenly become a very busy new mother. However, in keeping with her strong dedication to the JHJC, she has chosen to remain on the Board. Rachel has and will continue to serve the community very well with her many valuable skills and talents. Mazel Tov and a job well done Rachel!

B'Shalom,
Al Zuckerman, JHJC President

Directors 2008

Al Zuckerman, President
Mary Grossman, Secretary
Jen Daniels
Lisa Finkelstein
Ari Goldstein
Lou Hochheiser
Josh Kleyman
Deb Ochstein
Rachel Ravitz
Dava Zucker
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



Sophie Schuller
Only 6 months old and
already 70 pounds!

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

CALENDAR

November 12: JHJC Youth Group Get-Together. Film screening and discussion of *The Wave*. At the home of Marc and Lisa Domsky. 6:30p.m. Pizza provided. Contact the office for directions.

November 14: Shabbat with Carl Levenson and Chazzan Judd Grossman. 6:00 p.m. St. John's Episcopal Church, small chapel. Oneg to follow. Sponsored by Ron and Rose Novak in honor of Rachel Ravitz's son Joel.

November 27: No Bet Sefer Classes. Happy Thanksgiving!

December 21: Chanukah Party.

Check out our website

The Jackson Hole Jewish Community website has been revamped! Check it out at www.jhjewishcommunity.org. You can now copy events from our google calendar to your google calendar. Simply double click on the event and click on the "copy to my calendar" link. Thank you to Erik Kimball who helped with the improvements!

Thank You!

Community Safety Network extends its deepest gratitude to the Jackson Hole Jewish Community and all those who attended the 2008 Silent Witness Memorial Ceremony in spirit and in person, especially those who thoughtfully volunteered to help make the day a meaningful event. Each silhouette represented a victim of domestic violence homicide in Wyoming and so your assistance paid tribute not only to her, but to her family who gave permission for her story to be shared. Without your help, this would not have been possible. And without this event, these stories would be lost to history. Thank you for lending your voice to this important work. If you have any questions about Community Safety Network, or if you seek help for yourself or a loved one, please know that CSN is available anytime of the day or night at 733-SAFE (7233).

YOUTH GROUP UPDATE



The JHJC Youth group get-together in October. From left: Stephan Abrams, Arthur Blue, Dani Domsky, Jodi Domsky, Alia Scott.

We have been overjoyed by the response at the first two JHJC teen meetings. It is very insightful to hear Jackson teens talk candidly about the social attention they feel as a minority representing Jews in this community. Our first meeting began by asking, "What does being Jewish mean to you?" Whether in Jackson, America, or globally, this is a question we are all asked to consider every year during the High Holidays and it will be an underlying theme to many of our conversations. Our second meeting continued along this path with the added insight from seniors Alia Scott and Jodi Domsky. We watched components of the

PBS special "The Jewish American" looking at the many contributions Jews brought to the expansion of the West and the Hollywood comedy scene. Our purpose continues to be exploring the many facets of the Jewish American identity. Based on our conversation about anti-Semitism, the group chose to explore the psychology of how many Germans were sucked into the propaganda of the Nazi movement. To honor their interest, we will watch and discuss "The Wave" on November 12. All teens are welcome to join us!

*Jo Snyder &
Stephan Abrams,
JHJC Youth Group Advisors*



Meet the newest member of the JHJC: Joel Ravitz



The JHJC's knitzvah project has produced this beautiful blanket for "Afghans for Afghans." Way to go knitters!

Hanukkah presents for your furry friends

Times are "ruff" but don't leave your pet without a Hanukkah present this year. The JHJC is fundraising for our Bet Sefer program by selling Hanukkah toys for your pets. Our "Pet Presents" will contain a Jewish dog toy and a homemade kosher dog treat made by our students at Bet Sefer. The cost of providing some holiday cheer for your pet is a low \$10 for one toy, \$18 for two toys and \$25 for three! The time is NOW to order your Jewish dog toys. Please fill out the enclosed form in this month's

newsletter or contact the office 734-1999 or info@jhjewishcommunity.org to place your order. Pictures of the dog toys are displayed on the order form. You will be able to pick up your pooch's present from our students at Bet Sefer on Thursday, December 18, at our Hanukkah party on December 21, or by special arrangement with Andrea at our office. All proceeds will go to our Bet Sefer program. Thank you to Sandy Ress and Susan Foster for your generosity and help with this project.

HADASSAH MEETING UPDATE

New Year greetings and a Todah Rabah from Salt Lake City. As Area Vice President to the Wyoming Statewide Chapter of Hadassah, I was thrilled to come to Jackson and share some Hadassah love. Many thanks to EJ for hosting the lovely brunch; Andrea for her many organizational talents; all the women who came and shared and ate; and special thanks to Christine Schuller who will be the local contact person for Hadassah in Jackson.

Are you already a member of Hadassah but not a member of the Wyoming chapter? We hope you will transfer your membership to The Wyoming Statewide Chapter. Just pick up the phone and call National Hadassah membership at: 212-303-8099. If you are not a member and would like to join, please go to www.Hadassah.org where you can learn more about Hadassah on their web-

site. If you would like to become a member of this amazing organization which epitomizes Tikun Olam (Repair of the World) in Israel, here in the United States and throughout the world, you can sign up on line or call the JHJC office at 734-1999.

The Hadassah Regional Mid-winter Conference will be held in Salt Lake on February 7 and 8, 2009. It's a wonderful opportunity to learn, laugh and bond with women from the Desert Mountain Region. Contact the JHJC office if you would like to go to the conference. Also, feel free to call me anytime at 801-273-0192. Thanks again for the great reception and for all the recommendations on hiking. It was a totally great weekend.

Helene Cuomo, Area Vice President, Desert Mountain Region of Hadassah

Many Thanks:

Rachel Ravitz for serving as the JHJC Co-President for the past 8 months.

Lisa Finkelstein and **Marc Domsky** for hosting our Shabbat Shuva Oneg.

Tom and **Diann Mann** for hosting Rabbi Geller and his wife Ellyn during High Holidays.

Elliot a Frances Gerson for the donation of their car to Rabbi Geller during the High Holidays.

Laurie Thal for hosting our annual Sukkot celebration.

Rick Fox & Jen Daniels for hosting our Simchat Torah Oneg.

Mazel Tov:

Rachel Ravitz on the birth of your son **Joel!**

Linda Weil on the adoption of your new daughter Helen Rose.

Membership to the Jackson Hole Jewish Community

It's never too late to renew your membership to the JHJC! Being a member is the best way to support the Jackson Hole Jewish Community. It shows your commitment to having an active Jewish presence in Jackson, and your membership dues are the primary way to support the monthly programs and activities that keep our community vital. Membership application forms have been mailed. If you did not receive one, you may download the form from our website at www.jhjewishcommunity.org or contact our office info@jhjewishcommunity.org. A sliding scale of dues is available and no one will be turned away due to lack of funds.



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.



Kim Weiss shakes the lulav and etrog in all directions: north, south, east, west, up and down.



Lia Silberberg prepares a corn husk to hang from the community Sukkah at the community celebration in October.

Order Form for Jewish Dog Toy Fundraiser for the JHJC's Bet Sefer Program

Name: _____

Phone: _____

_____ **I would like to order:**

(please indicate the number of toys you would like to purchase):

_____ **905 (Dreidel)**

_____ **900 (Menorah)**

_____ **912 (Bagel)**

_____ **928 (Lox)**

_____ **903L (Bone)**

_____ **951 (Mensch)**

_____ **954 (Yenta)**

Cost:

\$10 for one

\$18 for two

\$25 for three

\$8 for each additional toy after your third purchase

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Please make checks payable to the Jackson Hole Jewish Community.

Mail to PO Box 10667 Jackson, WY 832002

Orders for our fundraiser can also be taken over the phone or e-mail. Contact Andrea at the JHJC office 734-1999 or info@jhjewishcommunity.org.

Chewish Treats™

by *Copa Judaica™*

905
Dreidel

900
Menorah



912
Bagel

928
Lox

903L
Bone



954
Yenta

951
Mensch

