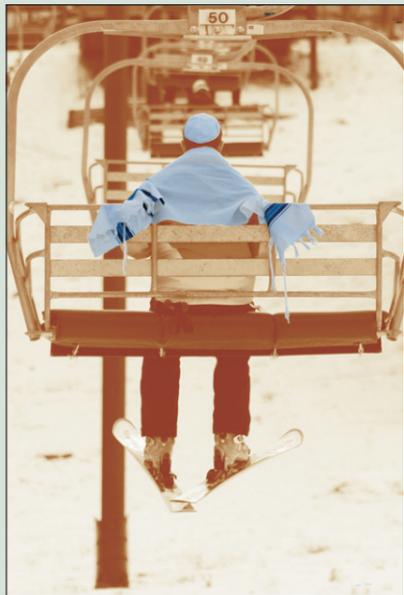




JACKSON HOLE  
JEWISH COMMUNITY  
P.O. BOX 10667  
JACKSON, WY 83002

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: *Subject to change.*  
Wednesdays 1:15 - 5 p.m.  
Fridays 1:15 - 5 p.m.



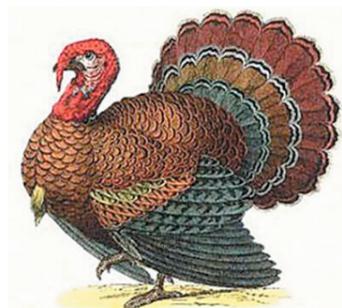
*The Jackson Hole Jewish Community is committed to creating a diverse Jewish presence that unites us, celebrates our faith and promotes tolerance in the greater Jackson community. We strive to engage all families and individuals in spirituality, education, tzedakah and the joys of Jewish life.*



### TODDLER SING-A-LONG WITH JUDD:

With many recent births and young families moving to the valley, we now have a large toddler community! This year we are thrilled to begin a new program for toddlers and their parents. On the first Thursday of every month, Judd and the teachers at Bet Sefer invite you and your toddler(s) to join the Bet Sefer from 4:15-4:45 pm.

- November 4**
- December 2**
- January 6**
- February 3**
- March 3**
- April 21**
- May 5**



## TURKEY DRIVE

The Jackson Hole Jewish Community is hosting its annual turkey drive this Thanksgiving to benefit local residents who need extra assistance during Thanksgiving. We are asking for our members to make a donation to the Jackson Hole Jewish Community for any amount by November 20th. We will use all of the money to buy turkeys to be donated to the Community Resource Center. Please make your check out to the Jackson Hole Jewish Community (PO Box 10667 Jackson, WY 83002) and earmark it "Turkey Drive."

### SAVE THE DATE:



**Shabbat Dinner  
with Rabbi Klein-Katz  
November 19, 6p.m.  
St. John's Church  
Hansen Hall**

# The Jackson Kol



NEWSLETTER FOR THE JACKSON HOLE JEWISH COMMUNITY • NOVEMBER 2010

## Letter from the president

So, Uncle Moishe was telling me he was playing pinochle at the senior center up on Moshula Parkway in the Bronx. He was kibbutzing with the fellas and they were complaining to each other about their trials and tribulations in dealing with the health care system. Well, one of the men, Hyman told them about what happened recently with his sister and her husband. Apparently his sister, Mrs. Shapiro, Unc couldn't remember her first name, received a call one day from a Dr. Rosenfeld at the Medical Testing laboratory. The doctor informed her that her husband's biopsy arrived at the same time as another Mr. Shapiro and that they weren't certain which one was which. The doctor said the results were either bad or terrible. "What do you mean?," asked Mrs. Shapiro nervously. The doctor said that one of the specimens tested positive for Alzheimer's and the other tested positive for AIDS and that they couldn't tell which was her husband's. Mrs. Shapiro asked him if they could do the tests again. The doctor said that Medicare would only pay for these expensive tests one time. Totally frustrated Mrs. Shapiro asked the doctor what she was supposed to do now. Dr. Rosenfeld told her that the people at Medicare recommended that she drop her husband off somewhere in the Bronx. If he finds his way home, don't sleep with him. All the card players at the table could say "Oy!"

It is November and my favorite holiday is coming up soon. I love Thanksgiving. And not because I don't have to shop for gifts, although that definitely makes it more appealing. And not because watching football on t.v. has become an obligatory tradition, although that is very appealing also. I love Thanksgiving because of the simple pleasures of spending time with family and

friends and the theme of counting my blessings and giving thanks for my life.

Giving thanks has always been an important part of Judaism. It is a very Jewish thing to do. In fact, it is a mitzvah for observant Jews to say prayers of thanks 100 times every day. We recite blessings of thanks over the wine and the bread before we eat and we saying a blessing of thanks after the meal, as well. We say a morning prayer, Modah Ani, thanking G-d for restoring our souls and we recite the Amidah, thanking G-d for the many blessings He has bestowed upon us. And we attend morning services to show our gratitude for life, good health and other good fortunes. And we also show our thanks by acting ethically, kindly and generously, which are important attributes of being Jewish, being a mensch.

Jewish law forbids us to celebrate any holiday that contains other religious rituals or observances. And it is true that Thanksgiving may have started as an outpouring of thanks with religious overtones by the Pilgrims. However, today the holiday has become largely secular in nature in America and Jewish religious authorities deem it "kosher" to celebrate this holiday. There are many ways to make the holiday meaningful in a Jewish way and decidedly Jewish in nature, as well. We can replace the traditional ham with a brisket or, even better, a pastrami, very lean, of course. Just think about the sandwiches you can make in the following days with the leftover pastrami! We can stuff the turkey with challah instead of Wonder Bread. We can recite the prayers of appreciation and gratitude we say at all meals and light candles with a blessing of thanks. We can have conversations, only at half-time or after the game of course, about the meaning of Thanksgiving and include the children in the discussion.

*cont'd on page 2 ...*

## DIRECTORS 2010

- Al Zuckerman, President
- Josh Kleyman, Vice President
- Ari Goldstein, Treasurer
- Mary Grossman, Exec. Director
- Mark Aronowitz
- Devra Davis
- Phyllis Fischer
- Andy King
- Etta Lindenfeld
- Rose Novak
- Lisa Finkelstein, ex-officio
- Carol Mann, ex-officio
- Rachel Ravitz, ex-officio
- Larry Thal, ex-officio
- Phyllis Turtle, ex-officio
- Linda Weil, ex-officio
- Dava Zucker, ex-officio

### Jewish Pet of the Month



**Smudge Stam**

Still looking for Jewish Pets of the Month! If you have a pet that you would like featured in our newsletter, please e-mail a picture to info@jhjewishcommunity.org.

## CALENDAR

**November 4: Toddler sing-a-long.** Join the Bet Sefer students and teachers from 4:15 – 4:45 pm. LDS church.

**November 10:** St. John's Church sponsors **Taj Ashaheed**, Chair of the Rocky Mtn. Islamic Society at 10 am and 7pm. 733-2603 for details.

**November 18: Lecture by Rabbi Michael Klein-Katz. "Jews, Christians, Muslims: The Challenges of Interreligious Dialogue"** 6 p.m., Teton County Library. R

**November 19: Shabbat Dinner with Rabbi Michael Klein-Katz and chazzan Judd Grossman.** JHJC will provide the Roast turkey in honor of Thanksgiving. Please bring a dish A – M please side dishes and N – Z bring a dessert. Hansen Hall at St. John's Episcopal Church. 6 p.m. Families encouraged to come, babysitting available.

**November 20: Saturday morning Adult Study with Rabbi Klein-Katz:** Why am I a Reform Zionist? 10 a.m. At the home of Rachel and Wendell Stam. Contact the JHJC office for directions.

**December 2: Toddler Sing-a-long with Judd.** Bet Sefer classroom, 4:14 – 4:45 p.m. LDS Church.

**Dec. 4: JHJC Annual Chanukah Party.** 6 p.m. Old Wilson School House. \$5, kids free with a wrapped gift for the Community Resource Center.



No one can deny that JHJC can throw down a great Chanukah party. Latkes, games, cookies, music and our famous blue and gold cocktails. Please bring a dish: A – I bring a main dish, J– R bring a salad or side dish, S -Z bring a dessert. This will be the last chance to purchase a limited supply of Mountain Chai Chanukah gelt from Bet Sefer students.

**December 17: Shabbat with Chazzan Judd Grossman.**

**December 25: Mitzvah Day.** Help out those in need on Christmas Day. Stay tuned for details. info@jhjewishcommunity.org or 734-1999.

*JHJC sends a special Todah Rabah to Dr. Brent Blue and JH Weekly for donating the production of this newsletter each month.*

## NOVEMBER'S VISITING RABBI : *Scholar in residence, Rabbi Michael Klein-Katz*

A native of Philadelphia, USA, Michael Klein-Katz was educated in the public school system, earned a B.A. in Religious Studies at Franklin and Marshall College, and received his honorary Doctor of Divinity, M.A. in Hebrew Literature and Rabbinic Ordination from the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (New York and Jerusalem). Now living in Jerusalem, he is devoting himself to interreligious and intercultural dialogue, adult education, medical clowning, religious tourism and raising a family.

As a spokesman for liberal Judaism, Rabbi Klein-Katz has founded, led and furthered



Klein-Katz

Jewish-Christian study groups, Arab-Jewish projects, courses for the study of Judaism by Jews and non-Jews alike and taught on the faculty of the Sisters of Zion sabbatical program for Catholic clergy for ten years. He serves as a mentor to rabbinic students, and as Rabbi to couples he marries and families from Israel and abroad who seek creative lifecycle celebrations, especially bar and bat mitzvah ceremonies. He presently serves as Lecturer in a

number of Israel-based study programs and Visiting Scholar at home and abroad. Rabbi Klein-Katz is also a major contributor and editor of a number of scholarly works.

### Schedule of Events with Rabbi Klein-Katz

• **November 18, Thursday:** Lecture by Rabbi Michael Klein-Katz, "*Jews, Christians, Muslims: The Challenges of Interreligious Dialogue*" 6 p.m., Teton County Library, free.

As witnesses to the one God, we monotheists share a religious heritage and historic destiny. Although these commonalities have had the potential to strengthen the bonds among us, millennia of competitive strife have left their scars in the suspicious way we have regarded one another in the past as well as in the present. Xenophobia reigns when we do not make an honest attempt to know the other. What are the challenges inherent in reaching out to our extended theological family and engaging them in dialogue? And what are the implications of these earnest attempts in a post-Shoah, Neo-Zionist world?

• **Friday, November 19: Shabbat Dinner with Rabbi Michael Klein-Katz and Chazzan Judd Grossman.** 6 p.m. JHJC will provide the Roast turkey in honor of

Thanksgiving. Please bring a dish A – M please side dishes and N – Z bring a dessert. Hansen Hall, St. John's Church.

• **November 20, Saturday: Adult Study: *Why I am a Reform Zionist?*** 10 a.m. Home of Rachel and Wendell Stam (contact the JHJC for directions.)

After nearly 150 years of a history of anti-Zionism, both religious and political, Reform Judaism stands proudly today in the forefront of the Zionist Movement, both in Israel and around the world. How did that transformation come to be? What are the European roots of our movement and why was it so adamantly anti-nationalistic when it came to our connections to the Land of Israel, but so enthusiastically pro-nationalistic in its loyalty to the state where it lived? We shall examine the documents that reveal the fascinating and radical development of Reform, whose very essence means change, and derive a better understanding of what it means to be a Reform Zionist today.

### Prez letter cont'd ...

We can recite Mizmor L'Todah, a Psalm of Thanksgiving or we can just enjoy the blessings of being with family and friends on this lovely holiday, thinking about the good in our lives and thanking G-d for it all. That may be just enough.

So, this Thanksgiving try giving it a Jewish flare for something different. Perhaps you

will build your own new traditions that will create warm memories for your children and grandchildren that may carry on when they have families of their own.

*B'Shalom,  
Al Zuckerman  
JHJC President*

## Bet Sefer Fundraiser!

Mountain "Chai" Chanukah gelt by Atelier Ortega

With the help of the world famous chocolatier Oscar Ortega, the kids of the Jackson Hole Jewish Community bring you this special Chanukah gelt. Help support the growing Bet Sefer Hebrew School by ordering your Mountain

**No need to feel "gelty." On the eighth day G-d created chocolate, and it was very good.**



**ORDER NOW IN TIME FOR CHANUKAH!**

"Chai" Chanukah gelt gift pack. \$12 for 18 beautifully packaged hand-crafted chocolate coins. Place your order by November 23 for delivery by December 1. A limited supply will be sold first-come, first-served at the Chanukah party on December 4. To place your order, please contact the JHJC office at 734-1999, info@jhjewishcommunity.org or speak with a Bet Sefer student or teacher.

## SCENES FROM OCTOBER: LOTS OF ROLLING



Simchat Torah



Babka Baking with Christine Schuller

## MAZEL TOV

■ **Devra Davis** for being mentioned in *Time Magazine*, having a cartoon of her in the *University of Chicago Magazine* and the launch of her book tour.



UNIV. OF CHICAGO MAGAZINE

## MANY THANKS

■ **Christine Schuller** for teaching the Babka cooking class in October.  
 ■ To **Michael Gellis** for helping with Simchat Torah.  
 ■ To those who **helped host oneg** for Simchat Torah.  
 ■ To **Sydney Daniels** for taking pictures at Simchat Torah  
 ■ To anyone **who renewed their membership** to JHJC this year! Don't worry, there's still time if you haven't done so.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

■ We are looking for an **energetic youth group leader**. If you are interested in this volunteer position contact Mary at info@jhjewishcommunity.org.  
 ■ We need a **car for Rabbi Klein-Katz** in November.  
 ■ We need a **new board member**.  
 ■ Contribute to the **Turkey Drive**.  
 ■ **Mitzvah Day on Christmas Day**. Good Karma. Help others in need on Christmas Day. Stay tuned for more details in the December newsletter. If you are interested in being part of this community outreach project, please email Mary Grossman at info@jhjewishcommunity.org for available shifts.

"Jackson Hole Jews"



Upload and view photos, videos and events for JHJC.