

Chaverim Newsletter

Letter from the President

Shalom Chaverim

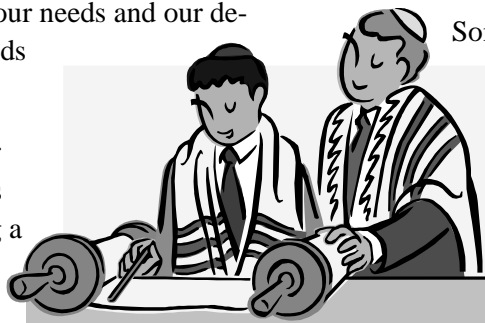
"If one takes in hand a number of reeds bound together, can one break them? Only if they are separated, each from the other, can they be broken."

We are those reeds of course. The importance of the Chaverim is that the reeds are bound together by our needs and our desire to meet the needs of others.

We are stronger for being committed as members and being a group that cannot be broken. It doesn't matter if you are "not religious" or "not a spiritual person." What matters is that for us as Jews in Jackson, the Chaverim is the way we can care for one another. It is not about believing in God, but more about at-one-ment, as Mike discussed on Rosh Hashanah. It is about being at one with oneself and being with each other — to gather and bind together as one. This is what we do when we support, console, pray, study and joyfully celebrate together.

In September we had the opportunity to do all of these things during Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Yet we are so given to introspection at that time that we can

forget how our own presence at services can support others. It is immensely gratifying to have out-of-town visitors say, "I wish our services were like this." And sad to have a visitor announce, "This is so peaceful. We have guards outside of our services in Virginia." True freedom is being able to take our peace for granted.



Sometimes the serious matter of anti-Semitism binds us together. Then it will not matter if you think you are religious or spiritual. You are Jewish to the world.

In October we have two opportunities to celebrate joyful Jewish holidays. Sukkot is our rich harvest festival. Again we will be fortunate to share Laurie and Russell's sukkah. Their sukkah is one of Jackson's oldest continuous Jewish traditions. And then we'll observe Simchat Torah. It is our challenge to make our gathering rival the exuberance of Purim. Be there and add to the fun!

Please remember to send in your membership dues, contribution and membership information. I am looking forward to seeing all of you this month.

Rose Novak, president

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

Ben Dann

This month, the Chaverim celebrates the Bar Mitzvah of Ben Dann. The Danns invite all to attend the 9:30 a.m. service at St. John's Episcopal Church. We all extend the warmest wishes to Ben as he completes this milestone. Information on Ben's Mitzvah project appears inside.

Calendar

Oct. 3 — Sukkot celebration, **4 p.m.** at Laurie Thal/Russell Scott's home. Call the office if you need directions.

Oct. 6 — Board Meeting at **noon** at Jessica Rutzick's meeting room at 60 E. Simpson. All are welcome to attend.

Oct. 8 — Simchat Torah/Shabbat. **6:30 p.m.** St. John's Episcopal Church Fellowship Hall. *Note that this is in lieu of the usually scheduled Shabbat on the Third Friday.*

Oct. 9 — The Bar Mitzvah of Ben

Dann. **9:30 a.m.** at St. John's Episcopal Church. The community is invited to attend.

October 23 — **Newsletter deadline.** Please e-mail items to info@jhjewishcommunity.org.

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

November 3 — Board meeting, **noon.** Location TBA. All are welcome to attend.

November 19 — Shabbat service.

Warm Wishes

Congratulations to

- Ben Dann on his Bar Mitzvah,
- Sarah Kimmelman and Dan Shatz on their wedding later this month.
- Tom and Diann Mann on the birth of their new grandson, Jeremiah Adam.

Best wishes for speedy recovery to

- Shelley Finkel,
- David Goldfarb, and
- Scott Stachel.

Ben Dann's Mitzvah Project

As Ben celebrates his Bar Mitzvah next week, it may interest the community to know that Ben used his Mitzvah project to work with seniors at St. John's Living Center. Since February, Ben has assisted Bob Kranenburg with his weekly game of Bingo with the seniors.



Ben chose this project because he had volunteered at the Living Center in years past and had always enjoyed the company of the residents there. He says the best part of the project was knowing how much the residents looked forward to the games each week and the wonderful people he got to know in the process.

Albertson's

Our partnership with Albertson's has been paying off in a big way, earning the Chaverim \$300-400 a quarter without costing us anything extra. If you have been using your Albertson's Chaverim card when shopping, you are doing a great job. Now Albertson's is making it even easier to give to the Chaverim: you can get your Chaverim number attached to your Preferred Savings Card number, so that you don't have to carry the Chaverim card with you when shopping. You can use these details to the right to take care of it. And thanks again.



Community Partners
- C A R D -

JACKSON HOLE CHAVERIM



Thanks for the Holidays

Much thanks to everyone who helped with the holiday services. These include Maddie Caldwell, who helped with ushering, Phyllis Turtle, who arranged child care, Larry Thal for blowing the shofar and all who accepted

honors and participated in the services.

And our deep appreciation to Rabbi Mike Comins for his thoughtful presentations, Cantor Judd Grossman for his heartfelt music and Victoria Hess who facilitated all. If you helped and we have forgotten to mention you, please accept our thanks anyway. We can only work as a community, and our sum is larger than its parts.

Sukkot & Simchat Torah

Sukkot

Sunday, October 3, 4 p.m.

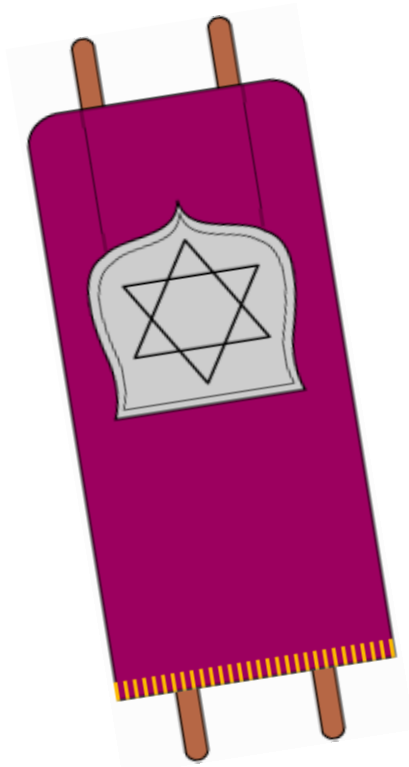
Laurie Thal/Russell Scott residence
off the Village road

**Come help build Jackson Hole's
Sukkah and celebrate the harvest.**

Potluck to follow.

Bring whatever you like!

Please call the office for directions.



Simchat Torah

Friday, October 8, 6:30 p.m.

St. John's Episcopal Church
Fellowship Hall

Come celebrate the Torah!

*With Rabbi Mike Comins
& Chazan Judd Grossman*

For information, call the office at 734-1999 or e-mail info@jhjewishcommunity.org.

Jackson Hole Chaverim

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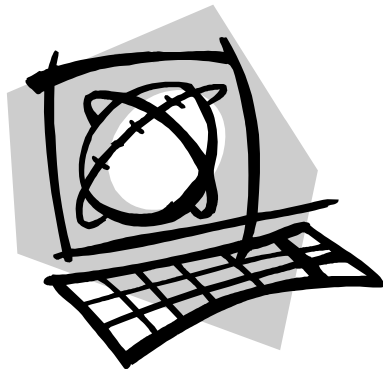
Phone: 307-734-1999
Fax: Same. By arrangement
Email: Info@JHJewishCommunity.org

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.

www.JHJewishCommunity.org

The Chaverim's website went active with the coming of the new year. Now information about the Chaverim and its activities is available 24/7, just a mouse click away. The website includes information about Chaverim membership, newsletters, Spirit of the Mountains camp, Bet Sefer, events, services, and more.



We would love to get your help in making the website useful for you. When you get a chance to visit the site, let us know how we can improve it to better serve you. We'd also love to get a few words from our members about Jewish life in Jackson Hole. This question is one we frequently

get in the office from out-of-towners, and we would like to include some insights on the website. Please send your thoughts to us at info@jhjewishcommunity.org.