

**SAVE THE DATE:**



**Back-to-Bet Sefer  
Pizza Party  
September 18  
4 pm  
at the LDS Church**

# The Jackson Kol



NEWSLETTER FOR THE JACKSON HOLE JEWISH COMMUNITY • SEPTEMBER 2008

## Letter from the Presidents

It seems everyone I talk to lately is at a loss to explain where the summer has gone. Can you believe we are already approaching the High Holidays? My explanation, and I'm sure Carol Mann would concur and expound further on the subject, is that it has something to do with an accelerated time warp phenomenon caused by the Tetons. Ask Carol about it next time you see her. Anyway, Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur will soon be upon us and we are excited and lucky to have Rabbi Stuart Geller leading the services this year. Please read about Rabbi Geller's background in his bio article in this month's newsletter.

You should have received our membership letter by now asking you to consider renewing your membership to the JHJC or becoming a new member. As it goes with anything else, whatever you have is only as good as what you put into it. As my uncle Moshe used to say, "If you don't want thin, watery chicken soup, you have to put some chicken into it." So we ask you to please renew your membership as the dues are the chicken in our soup and, if possible, consider giving a bisser more, to really thicken it up.

As public school starts in Teton county, so too does our wonderful Bet Sefer. This fall it will begin with a Back-to-Bet Sefer pizza party on

September 18. Please call Andrea at the office if you have not received registration materials and would like to register your child.

Stephen Abrams and Joanna Snyder are organizing a youth group this fall. This is a great idea to keep our young folks connected to the Jewish community. If you have some additional ideas or lots and lots of extra energy and enthusiasm, I'm sure Stephan and Joanna would love to hear from you.

Carol Mann will be leading our last two Meditation for Peace sessions the first two weeks of the month. The sessions have been very well attended and we encourage you to stop by and join in. It's FREE and you need not have attended one of the sessions in August to start in September.

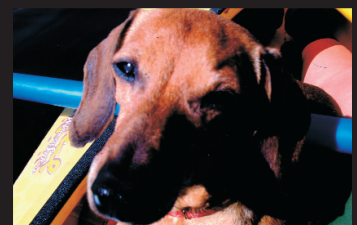
Lastly, we sincerely hope that if you are in town you will join us for all or parts of the High Holiday services. And, if you are elsewhere, we hope you have the opportunity to be with friends and family and enjoy the richness of the traditions and observances of these holidays. We wish everyone a very healthy and happy new year.

*L'Shanah Tova,  
Al Zuckerman and Rachel Ravitz  
Co-presidents*

## Directors 2008

- Rachel Ravitz, Co-President
- Al Zuckerman, Co-President
- Mary Grossman, Secretary
- Jen Daniels
- Lisa Finkelstein
- Ari Goldstein
- Lou Hochheiser
- Josh Kleyman
- Deb Ochstein
- Barbara Trachtenberg
- 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



**Waffles**  
Al and Charlene Zuckerman's dachshund

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

**September 5 & 12: Meditation for Peace with Carol Mann.** Exciting research proves meditating in a group creates wide ranging positive impacts for individuals, community and the environment. Carol will teach a simple form of mediation for a series of six sessions. Free! All are welcome, including teens 15 and older. Akasha Yoga Studio, 150 E. Hansen Ave. 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.

**September 13: Old Bill's Fun Run 12 for charities.** 10 a.m. on Town Square.

**September 17: JHJC Youth Group Get-Together.** 6:30 p.m., Location TBA. Come meet our Youth Group advisors Stephan Abrams and Joanna Snyder and join them for a pizza dinner, movie and information session.

**September 18: Back to Bet Sefer Pizza Party.** 4pm – 6 pm. LDS Church.

**September 20: Hike to Amphitheater and Surprise Lakes.** Meet at the Home Ranch parking lot (public parking lot in town) at 9 a.m. This is a moderate to difficult hike. Please bring your friends and family. Bring water, snacks and weather appropriate clothing. For more information call Al Zuckerman at 699-1091.

**September 21: Hadassah** (the women's Zionist organization of America) **information session.** 10 am – 12 pm at the home of EJ Hirschfield. Helene Cuomo, Hadassah Area Vice President for Wyoming will be in town. Learn about Hadassah happenings in Wyoming, Montana, and our Desert Mountain Region. Light brunch provided. Please contact the office for directions 734-1999 or info@jhjewishcommunity.org.

**September 25: Bet Sefer** classes begin.

**September 29: Erev Rosh Hashanah with Rabbi Stuart Geller and Chazzan Judd Grossman.** 5:30 p.m. St. John's Episcopal Church. Childcare provided.

**September 30: Rosh Hashanah with Rabbi Stuart Geller and Chazzan Judd Grossman.** Children's Service, 9 am; Shacharit, Morning Service, 10 a.m. (Childcare will begin at 10 a.m.). St. John's Episcopal Church. Potluck lunch to follow services in the Fellowship Hall.

**October 3: Shabbat Shuvah with Rabbi Stuart Geller and Chazzan Judd Grossman.** 6:00 p.m. Services will be held in the small chapel at St. John's Episcopal Church. Oneg to follow.

**October 8: Kol Nidre with Rabbi Stuart Geller and Chazzan Judd Grossman.** Kol Nidre services will start promptly at 6:30 p.m. Childcare provided.

**October 9: Yom Kippur with Rabbi Stuart Geller and Chazzan Judd Grossman.** Shacharit, Morning Service, 10:00 a.m. Childcare provided. Please see our High Holiday schedule of events for other programs and services throughout the day. 7:00 p.m. Potluck community Break Fast in the Fellowship Hall.

## OUR RABBI FOR HIGH HOLIDAYS 5769 Rabbi Stuart Geller

Stuart M. Geller retired from the rabbinate in June, 2001. After being ordained at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion 38 years ago, he served as Associate Rabbi of The Temple in Cleveland, Ohio and then as Rabbi of Temple Emanu-El of Lynbrook, New York for 21 years.

The Rabbi was the President of the Long Island Board of Rabbis, and a past President of the New York Association of Reform Rabbis. During his time in Cleveland, the Rabbi studied at



the Cleveland Psychiatric Institute where he became a trained counselor. Throughout his active rabbinate, the Rabbi taught Confirmation classes, created innovative Outreach Programs and Adult Education programs. He worked with each Bar and Bat Mitzvah candidate and studied independently with congregants. Rabbi Geller is known for his commitment to Jewish youth. He was honored for this commitment by The Central Conference of American Rabbis when he was awarded the prestigious Samuel Cook Award for Distinguished Service in Youth Work. Rabbi Geller spent 24 summers at the URJ Kutz

Camp in Warwick, New York where, for many years he was the director of the Torah Corps.

Rabbi has many interests but one he is most proud of is his collection of Passover Hagaddot and Books about the Dead Sea Scrolls. Which he shares in presentations whenever possible.

Rabbi and his wife Ellyn made Aliyah to Israel 7 years ago and now call Jerusalem home. He often comments that he has never been busier. In addition to

having served as Rabbi in Vienna, Austria for the High Holidays, he is also active with The Rabbis for Human Rights, he is a mentor for the first year rabbinic students, and he still finds time to study Hebrew and Talmud and also considers himself an amateur guide of Jerusalem. Best of all is his easy way with people and his wonderful sense of humor.

Rabbi Geller, a native of Denver, Colorado, is married to Ellyn, who until her retirement was the Director of Outreach for The Greater New York Council of Reform Synagogues. They have three adult children, Ari, Amy and David.

## The Art and Science of Forgiveness A Yom Kippur Workshop with Carol Mann

The importance of forgiveness to our ability to co-create a happy and healthy New Year, is indicated by its position as the culminating act of the High Holidays. Asking God for forgiveness is followed by consciously forgiving others and ourselves. This is the final step allowing for a clean slate in the New Year. Science now has a lot to contribute in support of the

practice of forgiveness. Studies have demonstrated a direct correlation between the ability to forgive and cardio-vascular health, cancers, mental health and inner peace. The best news is that forgiveness can be learned. Please join me at 2:30pm on Yom Kippur to learn more about the science and to practice the art of forgiveness.



## SUKKOT & SIMCHAT TORAH

The Jewish Holidays don't end with Yom Kippur. We will be celebrating Sukkot, the festival of booths, at the home of Laurie Thal on October 19. Come help the Jackson Hole Jewish Community decorate the community Sukkah and enjoy a fall afternoon potluck meal. If your last name begins with A-G please bring a side dish, H-M please bring a salad, N-S please bring a dessert, T-Z please

bring a main course.

A few days later we are blessed to celebrate Simchat Torah as a community. Rabbi Jerry Weider will be back in Jackson to help us "roll the scroll" back to the beginning and lead us in prayer and celebration on October 21. We look forward to celebrating the fall holidays with you and your family.

## OLD BILL'S FUN RUN 12

Donations to Old Bill's are earmarked for non-religious programming purposes only and are prohibited from consideration as membership dues. In addition to your membership, we encourage you to gift to the JHJC through Old Bill's. This specific matching fund allows us to continue our literary, cultural, educational and community outreach program-

ming. Some of such programming has included Holocaust education & participation in the Teton County Library Foundation Page to the Podium series, which has hosted authors and poets Michael Chabon, Frank McCourt, Billy Collins and Mary Oliver. Old Bill's Fun Run will be on Saturday, Sept. 13 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Town Square. See you there!

## Membership to the Jackson Hole Jewish Community

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

### High Holiday Tickets

In keeping with our policy, High Holiday tickets are included as part of your Jackson Hole Jewish Community membership. We will mail tickets upon receipt of your membership dues. This year, tickets for non-members, guests of members and visitors are being underwritten through the generosity of several families. Tickets will be provided to all who request them. Everyone is wel-

### Yitzkor Book Listings

Please send names for this year's Yitzkor book to Andrea Mazer at the office no later than Sept. 17th. Call

form from our website at [www.jhjewishcommunity.org](http://www.jhjewishcommunity.org) or contact our office [info@jhjewishcommunity.org](mailto:info@jhjewishcommunity.org). A sliding scale of dues is available and no one will be turned away due to lack of funds.

**Please note that High Holy Day tickets are included with membership so you do not need to request them after you fill out and return your membership forms.**

come to attend any and all High Holiday services. Thank you so much to our donors. To request tickets please fill out the following form and return it to: JHJC PO Box 10667 Jackson, WY 83002

If you have any questions or concerns please contact Andrea Mazer, JHJC Executive Director, at the office 734-1999 or [info@jhjewishcommunity.org](mailto:info@jhjewishcommunity.org).

734.1999 or e-mail [info@jhjewishcommunity.org](mailto:info@jhjewishcommunity.org)

### Many Thanks:

**Joan Goldfarb** for helping organize our annual AIPAC meetings.

**Phyllis** and **Howard Turtle** for hosting the lecture with **Liliane Messika**, a Jewish author in contemporary Europe.

**Mary Grossman** for organizing our annual membership party.

### Mazel Tov:

**Josh Kleyman** and **Kalen Ritz** on your recent marriage.

**Rick Fox** and **Jan Daniels** on the birth of your new babies **Benjamin Howard Daniels Fox & Ruby Golda Daniels Fox**.

**Sandy Ress, Susan Foster** and **Stephan Abrams** on the opening of **Pet Place Plus**.

**Ian Levenson & Lea Bonnacaze** on your recent marriage.

### The JHJC gratefully acknowledges the following donations:

To: **Bert** and **Terry Romberg**

In honor of Bert and Terry Romberg's dedication to the **JHJC Children's Fund**.

From: **Michael** and **Jenny Herman**

To: **Ron Novak**

In honor of your birthday.

From: **Linda** and **Sandy Wiener**

### Let's Eat, Greet, Laugh and Learn

JHJC ladies, join us for brunch on Sunday, September 21 at the home of EJ Hirschfield from 10 am – 12 pm for a fun and informative morning. Helene Cuomo, Hadassah (the women's Zionist organization of America) Area Vice President for Wyoming will be in town. Learn about Hadassah happenings in Wyoming, Montana, and our Desert Mountain Region. We hope you can join us. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call Helene at (801) 273-0192. Please contact Andrea Mazer at the office for directions 734-1999 or [info@jhjewishcommunity.org](mailto:info@jhjewishcommunity.org).



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.*



## 11th Annual Food Drive

We are a diverse and all-inclusive community. Each of us is entitled to the privilege of tzedakah, giving charity, which is especially important during the High Holy Days. Every contribution will be a help to the beneficiaries, and every contribution is important - from one can of food to many full grocery bags. On this New Year, please consider being an essential part of the greater community of Jackson Hole by donating to

our food drive.

Please bring non-perishable groceries to services on Yom Kippur. If you are unable to be there, please ask someone to bring your contribution. Suitable items include: canned proteins and soups, powdered milk, beans, rice, pasta, cereals and disposable diapers. Our collection will be given to the Community Cupboard to help people in Jackson with emergency needs.