



FROM THE PRESIDENT Kol Nidrei High Holiday Appeal



Jill Hamilton,
President

Welcome and Shanah Tova.

This is the season during which Jews around the world review the past year, and think about what we might want to do better in the coming year. As I think about my year, it is closely linked with events at Temple Sinai. Temple Sinai has had stability in numerous areas that make our temple wonderful— Rabbi Alex continues as our rabbi, and has just begun a new 3-year contract with us; we have inspiring Shabbat services; we have a delightful Tot Shabbat program; we have adult education programs; and we have congregants talented in music, leadership, and many aspects of temple life who share their talents with us. We have recently passed new bylaws that reflect our current outlook on temple governance. Looking forward to the coming year, we are planning our 60th anniversary. We will be having a special party in November, linked to the Global Day of Jewish Learning, which will feature a visit from Rabbi Barry Schwartz and a performance by the George Scott Band. Then, in the spring, we will have a gala event. We will also have opportunities to learn more about our history, thanks to Rebecca Slonim's work with our historic

photos. And , we may get to see the reprise of a parody that was written and performed at Temple Sinai many years ago.

While our temple has, in many ways, had a year of stability and continuity from our past to our future, we have also had some unexpected changes.

Last year was my first year as temple president. It was my first time getting up in front of all of you to explain why you should support this temple that we love. Who knew, when I stood before you at High Holidays, that within a few months, we would have been contacted by Temple Beth Am to discuss a possible merger? While our Strategic Planning committee had been monitoring our shrinking and aging population for some years, and trying to propose solutions to prolong the life and increase the vibrancy of this community that we love, we did not expect to be contacted by another temple, who also wanted to plan for the future. We, your temple leadership, felt obligated to explore this opportunity. This does not mean that there are not other possibilities for Temple Sinai's future, but we did feel a responsibility to see these talks through, and see where they might lead. The talks have progressed from getting to know one another to serious consideration of the issues that need to be addressed in the "marriage" of two congregations. Although the talks are serious and progressing, this is by no means a "done deal."

Last year, in talking about why you should support Temple Sinai, I told you about how much our members love Temple Sinai and how important it is to all of us. Today, I feel like I should talk about how important Temple Sinai is to me, because I am giving you MY commitment to ensure that what is best about Temple Sinai is preserved long into the future.

My family originally joined Temple Sinai because it was a place where we felt that our children would be included with their peers, even though they did not initially attend the temple's religious school. We have now been at Temple Sinai for 10 years, and there is no question that it truly feels like "home." We have celebrated my adult bat mitzvah, my son Aaron's bar mitzvah, and my daughter Maddie's bat mitzvah here. We have participated in a tremendous number of services, adult education programs, social events, youth activities, and simchas, and my children have even initiated some of the activities. I have turned on the sound system, poured wine, set up onegs, planned outings, worked in the kitchen, taken out garbage, and shoveled sidewalks. Every member of my family has friends here that we look forward to seeing when we come to services.

Most of all, I love the people here. I think our congregation offers something unique in Western New York. We have wonderful volunteers who give of their time and energy to support all kinds of programming . Temple Sinai has a warm, quirky "personality" that makes us different from other temples. This is something we want to preserve. I am absolutely committed, as are all of this temple's leadership, to seeing that the uniqueness of Temple Sinai is preserved and has a strong future. (continued on pg 3)

RABBI ALEX TO TRAVEL TO GOTTINGEN, GERMANY FOR THE KRISTALLNACHT MEMORIAL CEREMONY



Rabbi Alex
Lazarus-Klein

While I will carry no official paperwork from the United States Government or from any national Jewish organization, on Wednesday, November 9th, I will certainly be serving as an ambassador. Together with Drs. George and Wilma Iggers, I will be traveling to Göttingen, Germany to take part in their annual Kristallnacht memorial ceremony.

How strange it is to go to Germany, as a rabbi, as a Jew, on the anniversary of one of the worst dates in Jewish history, in a place that did so much harm to our people. For me it is even stranger, having spent three years of my childhood on an American army base in Germany. It was 1978, I was five-years old and my dad was serving as a dentist in the army. Germany is where I learned to read (both Hebrew and English, as well as a little German), attended Hebrew school for the first time, and learned about cultures and communities across Europe. Now it is a place I will be returning to, to bring healing to both Jew and Gentile and to recognize incredible strides that have been made in the past half-century.

Many Jews will never set foot upon German soil or buy German products, but I consider it a great privilege and honor to be making this particular journey. Three years ago, on the 70th anniversary of Kristallnacht, the day the last synagogue in Göttingen was burned to the ground, the small university town in the middle of Germany built a new synagogue. Transporting an old, unused synagogue from a neighboring town and then restoring it to life, the citizens of Göttingen said to the world, "We are sorry for what our ancestors did and we would like to make amends."

Nothing can wipe away the hurt and stain perpetrated by the Nazi murderers, but I hope that my visit will send a message to the Göttingen community that the world has noticed their actions. And, more than that, I hope that my visit will be a welcoming sign to the small-but-growing Jewish community in Göttingen that what they are doing matters. For it is not just the Iggers and I who are making this trip, but all of you. You, the members of Temple Sinai, you, the members of the Buffalo Jewish community, will be there by my side, walking in the footsteps of our ancestors and doing our small part to restore life to a place that has witnessed so much destruction.

Thank you to the Iggers for making this trip possible and thank you to our community for your support. I look forward to telling you all about it when I return.

Just a few words about November: The first few weeks of the month will be some of the busiest in our community in the whole year. On Friday, November 4th, we will celebrate the official marriage (Go NY State!!!) of Maude Dull and Karin Lowenthal, who will be sponsoring the oneg that night. On Saturday, November 5th, we will celebrate the Bat Mitzvah of Rachel Meyerowitz. And then, on the following weekend, we will be welcoming our former rabbi, Barry Schwartz, to lead services on Friday night, November 11th, to be part of our 60th Anniversary Celebration on Saturday night, November 12th, and to be part of the Global Day of Learning at the JCC on the morning of the 13th. I look forward to seeing you at all of these wonderful events.

LIBRARY CORNER

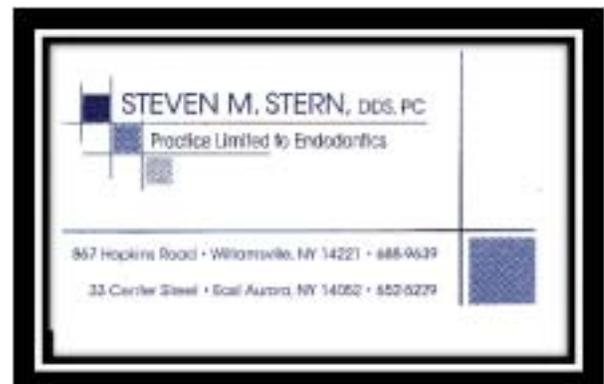
by Leslie Jaszczak

If you were at the Yom Kippur morning service, you may remember Rabbi Lazarus-Klein referring in his sermon to a historic meeting that took place several years ago between the Dalai Lama and a group of Jewish leaders. As his people faced exile and brutal repression at the hands of the Chinese government, the Tibetan leader turned to Jews as "survival experts." There were also fruitful discussions held about other matters of common interest between Judaism and Buddhism.

One man who was invited to attend these meetings was poet Rodger Kamenetz, who later wrote the acclaimed book *The Jew in the Lotus: A Poet's Rediscovery of Jewish Identity in Buddhist India*. Not only does Kamenetz chronicle the interfaith discussions and interview prominent Buddhists who were born Jewish; he also discovers a deeper connection to Judaism in his own life.

The library also has two other books that you may wish to check out if you are interested in exploring the relations between Judaism and Buddhism, which, if you have heard of JUBUs (or BUJUS), you will be aware can coexist comfortably within the same person. That's Funny, You Don't Look Buddhist, by Sylvia Boorstein, is subtitled "On Being a Faithful Jew and a Passionate Buddhist."

Finally, *A Jewish Mother in Shangri-La*, by Rosie Rosenzweig, is the story of a mother's quest, ranging from Boston to Nepal (where our own Rabbi Arnold also spent time), to understand her son's choice of a spiritual path, in the process learning more about herself than she had ever imagined.



There Has Never Been a Sovereign Arab State in Palestine The Area between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea

October 3, 2011 | Eli. E. Hertz

A Palestinian state now has a good chance of becoming a rogue state the kind of polity the United States is currently grappling with in Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, Iran and elsewhere

The artificiality of a Palestinian identity is reflected in the attitudes and actions of neighboring Arab nations who never established a Palestinian state themselves.

The rhetoric by Arab leaders on behalf of the Palestinians rings hollow. Arabs in neighboring states, who control 99.9 percent of the Middle East land, have never recognized a Palestinian entity. They have always considered Palestine and its inhabitants part of the great Arab nation, historically and politically as an integral part of Greater Syria Suriyya al-Kubra a designation that extended to both sides of the Jordan River. In the 1950s, Jordan simply annexed the West Bank since the population there was viewed as the brethren of the Jordanians. The Arabs never established a Palestinian state when the UN in 1947 recommended to partition Palestine, and to a Jewish state [not a Palestinian state, it should be noted]. Nor did the Arabs recognize or establish a Palestinian state during 19 years prior to the Six-Day War when Judea and Samaria known also as the West Bank were under Jordanian control and the Gaza Strip was under Egyptian control; nor did the Palestinian Arabs themselves clamor for autonomy or independence during those years under Jordanian and Egyptian rule.

And as for Jerusalem: Only twice in the city's history has it served as a national capital. First as the capital of the two Jewish Commonwealths during the First and Second Temple periods, as described in the Bible, reinforced by archaeological evidence and numerous ancient documents. And again in modern times as the capital of the State of Israel. It has never served as an Arab capital for the simple reason that there has never been a Palestinian Arab state. According to investigative journalist Joan Peters, who spent seven years researching the origins of the Arab-Jewish conflict over Palestine (From Time Immemorial, 2001), the one identity that was never considered by local inhabitants prior to the 1967 war was Arab Palestinian.

President's KOL NIDREI APPEAL Continued from page 1

To ensure our future, we continue to need your support. We continue to have a full-time rabbi, a religious school program, religious services every week and on every holiday, adult education programs, life cycle events, and a variety of social supports available. In addition, we need to maintain our aging building, in order to prevent future, more expensive problems. These are very challenging times. And yet, we have a unique opportunity to envision our future. Although our population is shrinking, we want to ensure that the unique Temple Sinai "voice" continues to be heard in the Buffalo Jewish community, whether we continue in our own building, or in another building as part of a merged congregation. We need your investment to carry forward the true spirit of Temple Sinai, regardless of what house it lives in. I am asking you not just to invest in our day-to-day operations, but in our unique brand of Jewish worship and community.

Finally, I want to remind you that your temple community needs you in many ways. There are so many opportunities for you to be a part of this community. You could sign up to help make a lunch for the homeless with the Tikkun Olam committee, help stuff envelopes for a fundraiser, do a reading at services, sing with the choir, set up an oneg for Ruach, or attend an adult education program. If you want to have a say in what is going on at temple, join the temple government – volunteer for a committee, or ask to be considered for the board when we choose new board members next May. If you don't want to be a leader, but do want to let your feelings be known, please feel free to talk to myself or any board member at any time, either in person or by phone or email.

Please give generously to support our community, so that Temple Sinai can continue to be here for future generations. Thank you and may you be sealed in the book of life.

L'ShanahTova

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE RETURN OF CHAI CLUB

The Fundraising committee, under the direction of Sandy Seide has started the sale of our latest Chai Club tickets. As an incentive to sell tickets early they have doubled the cash prizes for the first two weeks drawings. The Temple Sinai member who sells the most tickets will also be rewarded with a prize. If we all do our part, Temple Sinai will have another successful fundraising event. Remember to sell your tickets early and be entered to win



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TEMPLE SINAI'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR

In Honor of Temple Sinai's 60th Anniversary the Dialogue will be featuring photos and articles in celebration of Temple Sinai's history courtesy of the hard work of Rebecca Slonim. We hope you enjoy this new monthly feature and the stroll down memory lane.



1964 Rummage Sale

Seated, L-R, Sophie Gastel, Betty Goodman, Standing, Carol Yellen, Babe Strouse, Lou Wolf, Norma Edwards, Elinore Wexler,



Rabbi Herzog's Installation 1968

Seated, L-R, Mrs. & Rabbi Isaac Klein, Rabbi & Mrs. Joseph Herzog, Standing, Irv & Edith Goldstein, Shirley & Dave Feld



Temple Sinai Celebrates it's Thirteenth Year with a B'Nei Mitzvah Celebration November 1965

L to R Dave and Shirley Feld, Mrs and Mr. Goldstein



Rabbi and Mrs. Mordecai Kaplan at his 90th Birthday, October 1971

Our yearlong celebration of Temple Sinai's 60th Anniversary begins the weekend of November 11th. We welcome back Rabbi Barry Schwartz. He will lead the Shabbat evening service after a pot-luck dinner. The festivities continue Saturday evening with a Havdallah service and an evening of live music with the George Scott Band. Come dance and enjoy wine and desserts. Sunday, Rabbi Schwartz will speak at the JCC for the Global Day of Jewish Learning, a project of the Aleph Society. Check it out at www.theglobalday.com. Tickets to see Rabbi Schwartz are free, but must be reserved in advance and seating is limited.

New memories made for future generations to see. Taslich, wet but memorable on the shores of the mighty Niagara. Beautiful autumn day to put up the sukkah. Simchat Torah, festive and joyful.



Clockwise upper left, Jarah, Rabbi Alex, Boaz Lazarus-Klein, Sophie Cramer-Benjamin, Jan Sandberg, Darci, Sophie, and Adam Cramer-Benjamin with friends, Max Frawley-Goldhirsch, Mirel Puius, Bob Wakoff, Rabbi Alex, Max and Kim Goldhirsch and Gloria Tetewsky, Marianne Goldstein, and Judith Olin, Josh and Lei Lei Balderman, Mark Ables, Walter Gordon, Phil Hamilton, and Charles Vogel

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Barbara Ferlicca

Lei Lei and Joshua Balderman

Katharine Morrison and Terri Fregoe

MAZEL TOV

Special thanks to Rabbi Alex, Cantor Audrey & Ellen Franke and all those who contributed to our beautiful & meaningful high holiday services.

Michael Rosenberg and Alan Lemanski for taking care of our landscaping again this year. Everything looked beautiful.

CONDOLENCES

Ashirah Lazarus Klein on the loss of her grandmother Rose Najman

Upcoming Events

(Please see weekly email updates or check online calendar at www.temple sinaibuffalo.org)

Temple Board Meeting Tuesday November 1 @7:30 pm (everyone is welcome to attend)

Rabbi Alex's office hours Thursdays @ 3pm

Tot Shabbat Friday November 4 @ 6pm, **Family Service @ 7pm Oneg** sponsored by Karin Lowenthal and Maude Dull in honor of their New York State wedding.

Rachel Meyerowicz's Bat Mitzvah Saturday November 5 @ 10:30am

Pot Luck Dinner Friday November 11 @ 6pm, Welcome Rabbi Barry Schwartz as he leads **Shabbat Service @ 7:30pm**

Havdallah Service Saturday November 12 @ 8pm followed by live music by The George Scott Band, dancing, wine and refreshments.

Global Day of Jewish Learning (part of the JCC Community Book Fair) Rabbi Barry Schwartz to speak Sunday, November 13 @10am at the JCC Benderson Building,

Gesher Shabbat Service Friday November 18 @ 7:30pm at Temple Beth-Tzedek.

Family Shabbat Morning Service @10am at Temple Sinai

Rummage Sale Sunday November 20 @ 9am (call Maureen Seitz to volunteer)

Weekly Schedule of Services:

Shabbat Service, Fridays, 7:30 pm (Family Services on first Friday of month at 7:00 pm; Tots at 6:00 pm)

Shacharit Service, Saturdays, 10:00 am (unless noted above)

Beit Midrash Torah Study, Saturdays, 11:00 am (at 9:30 am on day of Bar/Bat Mitzvot)

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