



WE WELCOME

A NEW RABBI

AND

A NEW YEAR!

L'SHANAH TOVAH!

SISTERHOOD MEETING

SEPTEMBER 8TH - 8:15PM

KNOCK WOOD/KINAHORA

SUPERSTITIONS OLD AND NEW

PRESENTED BY CAROL COTT GROSS

SISTERHOOD NEWS BEGINS ON PAGE 14

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

Rabbi Steven Conn & Cantor Morris Wolk will officiate at services
 The Officers and Board of Trustees Extend a Hearty Mazal Tov to the Families of the Following Simchas

Wednesday, September 2nd

AARP Course (2nd session Sept. 9th).....6:30 PM-9:45 PM
 Singles Group.....8:00 PM

Friday, September 4th

Light Candles.....7:00 PM
 Sabbath Eve Services.....7:00 PM
 Oneg Shabbat in Kirschner Room

Saturday, September 5th

Shachrith Services.....9:00 AM

Torah Readers: Susan Stromberg,
 Michael Stromberg
 Diane Miller
 Barbara Greenberg
 Howard Kleinmann
 Sam Cohen

Bat Mitzvah: Ashley Stromberg,
 Daughter of Susan & Michael Stromberg

Extended Kiddush in Eichenbaum Room
 Mincha Maariv.....7:00 PM

Sunday, September 6th

Services followed by Men's Club T/T Breakfast.....9:00 AM

Tuesday, September 8th

Sisterhood Meeting.....8:15 PM

Wednesday, September 9th

SAT Class.....6:30 PM-9:45 PM
 Singles Group.....8:00 PM

Thursday, September 10th

Cocktail Party/Journal Welcome to Rabbi Conn & Family
 Crest Hollow Country Club.....7:00 PM

Friday, September 11th

Light Candles.....6:48 PM
 Family Friendly Service.....7:00 PM
 Oneg Shabbat in Kirschner Room

Saturday, September 12th

Shachrith Services.....9:00 AM

Torah Reader: Howard Kleinmann
 Bar Mitzvah: Marc Grossman
 Son of Carol & Glenn Grossman

Congregation Kiddush in Kirschner Room
 Mincha Maariv.....6:45 PM
 Selichot Program/Services.....8:45 PM

Sunday, September 13th

Services followed by Men's Club T/T Breakfast.....9:00 AM
 Installation of Rabbi Steven Conn.....10:30 AM
 "It's A Girl Thing" Program.....4:30 PM
 Youth Groups – Open House.....6:00 PM

Tuesday, September 15th

Men's Club Opening Meeting – BBQ.....7:00 PM

Wednesday, September 16th

SAT Class.....7:00 PM-9:00 PM
 Singles Group.....8:00 PM

Friday, September 18th

Light Candles.....6:37 PM
 Erev Rosh Hashanah Services.....6:30 PM

Saturday, September 19th – ROSH HASHANAH

Rosh Hashanah 1st Day Services.....9:00 AM & 6:30 PM
 Family Service (2 sessions).....10:00 AM-11:15 AM
 11:45 AM to 1:00 PM
 Light Candles.....7:39 PM

Sunday, September 20th

Rosh Hashanah 2nd Day Services.....9:00 AM & 6:30 PM
 Family Service (2 sessions).....10:00 AM-11:15 AM
 11:45 AM-1:00 PM
 Services followed by Men's Club T/T Breakfast.....9:00 AM

Monday, September 21st – FAST OF GEDALIAH

SAT Class.....7:00 PM-9:00 PM

Wednesday, September 23rd

SAT Class.....7:00 PM-9:00 PM
 Singles Group.....8:00 PM

Friday, September 25th

Light Candles.....6:25 PM
 Sabbath Eve Services.....7:00 PM
 Oneg Shabbat in Kirschner Room

Saturday, September 26th – SHABBAT SHUVAH

Shachrith Services.....9:00 AM
 Torah Readers: Barbara Greenberg
 Hannah Kerin

Kiddush in Kirschner Room
 Mincha Maariv.....6:30 PM

Sunday, September 27th

Services followed by Men's Club T/T Breakfast.....9:00 AM
 Men's Club Setting up Sukkah.....9:00 AM
 Light Candles.....6:22 PM
 Kol Nidre Services.....6:30 PM
 Family Service.....6:30 PM

Monday, September 28th – YOM KIPPUR

Yom Kippur Services Including Yizkor.....9:00 AM
 Family Service (2 sessions).....10:00 AM-11:15 AM
 11:45 AM-1:00 PM
 Mincha, Neelah, Maariv.....5:00 PM

Wednesday, September 30th

SAT Class.....7:00 PM-9:00 PM
 Lulav/Etrog Pickup.....7:00 PM
 Singles Group.....8:00 PM

Friday, October 2nd

Light Candles.....6:13 PM
 Erev Sukkot Services.....6:15 PM
 Oneg Shabbat in Sukkah

Saturday, October 3rd - SUKKOT

1ST Day Sukkot Services.....9:00 AM
 Sukkah Hop Following Services
 Kiddush in Sukkah

FROM THE RABBI by Rabbi Steven Conn

In the short time that I have served as Rabbi of the Plainview Jewish Center, I have been overwhelmed by the warm welcome I have received. On behalf of my wife Illyse, my son Yoni and daughter Dalya, I want to thank all of you for giving us such a warm reception. I am very excited about my service to our congregation. My family and I are very happy to be living in such a strong and vibrant community. I am looking forward to meeting as many of you as possible in the next few months. Please feel free to call me at the Center or email me at rabbiconn@plainviewjewishcenter.com. I would love to hear from you.

People often ask me, “Did you always want to be a rabbi?”

“No,” I answer, “In fact, for a long time, I thought I was going to go to law school and become an attorney.” At this point, if my wife Illyse is standing beside me, she will laugh. Illyse did go to law school and practiced law for many years. To her, the idea of me practicing law seems patently absurd. “You could have been a good law professor,” she tells me, “but you wouldn’t have enjoyed practicing law. You just don’t have the right temperament.”

By “the right temperament”, I think Illyse means that I have too optimistic a view of people. I see the good in people, sometimes to a fault. I am always considering the best case scenario. A good lawyer, on the other hand, always has to be suspicious of people in order to protect the client. A good lawyer has to anticipate the worst case scenarios all the time. A good lawyer stays up nights thinking of all the ways a client might be exposed to liability. While a good lawyer doesn’t have to be a pessimist and a skeptic by nature, he or she does have to get used to thinking like one on the job. And that challenge, Illyse would say, is one that I would find particularly disheartening.

Fortunately, I don’t have to test Illyse’s theory (fortunately—because she has an amazing knack for being right about most things). I became a rabbi instead. And, as it turns out, optimism is a wonderful trait in a rabbi; if not an essential survival skill. As I have been reminded all too often in my first weeks at PJC, rabbis need to be able to reassure people who have suffered a devastating loss that their broken hearts will one day heal. Rabbis need to help inspire people facing debilitating health problems to keep on fighting in the hope that healing may soon be at hand. Rabbis need to believe in the eternal relevance of our Torah and tradition, even as their teachings are constantly challenged by the latest ideas and trends.

Most of all, rabbis need to be optimists because Judaism is based on a very optimistic view of human nature. Judaism believes in our ability to choose the good; to learn, to grow, to change ourselves and the world around us. We believe that we can always be better people, and the world can always be a better place. The upcoming Yamim Noraim (High Holidays) provide a dramatic illustration of this core belief. Each year, during the month of Elul that leads up to Rosh HaShannah, our tradition teaches us that we should undertake a true cheshbon nefesh—a self-examination. We should spend time reflecting on the past year, taking stock of ourselves. Inevitably, we will find areas where we have done wrong—or, to use a more literal translation of the Hebrew word *chata*—missed the mark. If we are able to make amends for these lapses, we do so. If not, we ask forgiveness from God and from the people we have wronged. Then we resolve to take the lessons learned and carry them into the future. And if all goes well, we will be better people in the coming year as a result of engaging in this process of reflection and repentance.

Yet, we know that we will still repeat this process of taking stock and repenting at the end of next year—and at the end of every year. God does not expect perfection. Just the opposite. But God does expect us to keep learning and growing, to keep moving closer to the ideal. We have the capacity to be better people. As a species, we have the capacity to make the world a better place. That’s what the idea of the Messiah is all about. In Judaism, the Messiah, or the Messianic Era, comes about when we perfect the world under God’s rule; when we create a world of peace and justice, a world in which all people are regarded as equally beloved by the one true God. With God’s help, we humans have this

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The Cantor's Note: *ELECTION DAY 5770*



Rosh Hashanah 5770 heralds a new decade in the Jewish calendar. Its predecessor closed with two developments of major significance to all Americans – the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression, and the extraordinary presidential election of Barack Obama. On the impact of the first, there is near universal agreement. On the impact of the second, the jury will be out for some time. This, however, is not a column about politics, though it is about election. Entirely irrespective of political affiliation, and how history will ultimately judge his administration, the election of a black man to the highest office in the land was a watershed for the United States of America, a nation of promise and opportunity for all peoples.

Our congregation, too, held a consequential election last year. It elected a new spiritual leader to the pulpit of the Plainview Jewish Center. I join in welcoming Rabbi Steven Conn, his wife Illyse, and son Yoni into the Center family, and look forward to working together with him as colleagues for many years.

The theme of election seems to be to be an apt one for this season of the year. It is now that we especially examine our lives carefully and stand in judgment, not only before God, but before our own consciences. On election days, we weigh the merits of competing candidates; on the Days of Awe, we weigh our own merits.

According to Jewish tradition, an entire people is considered to have been elected for a specific purpose. In the Book of Deuteronomy, Moses tells the People of Israel that they have been elected by God to be His special people, chosen to give God's message to the world. Though it may not be politically correct to express it, I believe, as an American, that our country has been elected for a special role in history, to embody and defend the democratic ideal at its best. Despite our failures and blunders, our mistakes of omission and commission, my faith in an America linked to the cause of freedom with justice, and as a beacon of liberty for all, remains unshaken.

The Torah also speaks of a segment of a nation elected for special tasks. In biblical times, the tribe of Levi from whom the Kohanim are descended, was chosen to minister to their brethren. There are still vestiges of this election which remain in traditional Jewish practice to varying degrees.

Individuals, too, are selected by God for special missions. Not only Abraham, Moses, and the prophets, but every human being is considered by Jewish tradition as having been elected by God for a special responsibility. On the High Holy Days, each of us becomes keenly aware of the sacred responsibility laid upon us, and it is we who can decide by our own deeds whether we are worthy of this election and whether we will be successful candidates for the unique mission in which God calls us.

When a cantor ascends the bimah on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, as "*sheliach tsibbur*", the messenger of the congregation in prayer, he or she does so with the greatest humility and a deep sense of responsibility. The bimah is the elevated part of the synagogue from where the service is conducted. It is a platform giving greater height and a broader view, something on which to stand, a program for living of which we can be proud. Every candidate for election must stand upon a platform. For Jews, the bimah represents our platform. When we come to the synagogue on these Days of Awe, it is in order to reaffirm our commitment to our Jewish heritage, the platform on which we can stand with dignity and pride, elevating our lives, and giving us a sense of belonging and rootedness in an ancient tradition and people. As one rabbi observed, it is here that we know who we are.

Gerri joins me in wishing all the members of our congregation and their families a happy, healthy, sweet and productive New Year. May we, together with all Americans, see in this coming year, the beginning of recovery from the economic pain and distress which has so afflicted our country.

L'shanah Tovah Tikatevu V'Techatemu.

Cantor Morris Wolk

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Barbara Greenberg

Dear Friends,

I hope that all of you have had a pleasant summer and enjoyed whatever vacation plans you made. It is always good to have some time off to recharge our batteries over the "lazy days" of summer before Labor Day arrives and we get back into our regular routine. As the end of August quickly approaches, both we and our children prepare for the opening of school – whether they are beginning nursery, off to college, or anywhere in between. Usually this involves a lot of shopping – for clothes, sneakers, school supplies, etc. This is also the time when many people start looking to join a synagogue. Perhaps you know a friend or a new neighbor who would be interested in joining PJC. Please get the word out and let everyone know how wonderful we are, because we are truly a terrific, warm and caring congregation.



The High Holidays are just around the corner, and this year we are excited to have Rabbi Conn, his wife Illyse and son Yoni become part of our PJC family. We have planned many events to make them feel welcome. Starting on Thursday evening, September 10th, there will be a cocktail reception in their honor held at Crest Hollow Country Club. This is the first in a series of events scheduled for this whirlwind weekend. The elaborate smorgasbord is sure to tempt everyone's palate and we look forward to seeing you there. You should have already received your invitation in the mail. So, if you haven't already done so, please make your reservations immediately. On Friday we will have our monthly Family Friendly Friday Night Service followed on Saturday night by our Selichot Program and services. Our celebration will culminate with Rabbi Conn's installation on Sunday morning. As you can see there will be ample opportunity to meet and get better acquainted with our new Rabbi and his family.

The new year holds the promise of all good things for Plainview Jewish Center. I am honored to serve as your president and pledge to do my very best to ensure that PJC remains the best conservative synagogue in the area. I have the pleasure of working with the most dedicated officers, trustees and others who volunteer their time and effort that anyone could ever wish for.

I look forward to seeing each of you on services during the holidays. On behalf of my family, I wish you and yours a very happy, healthy and prosperous new year.

**THE OFFICERS & BOARD OF TRUSTEES
WISH TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO WISH ALL OUR CONGREGANTS
A HEALTHY, HAPPY AND SWEET NEW YEAR – LESHANAH TOVAH.**

HIGH HOLIDAY TICKET INFORMATION

All payments, purchases and pick-up of tickets must be made by
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17TH, 2009.

Tickets can be picked up at the Temple office as follows:

Tuesday-Thursday – September 8 th - 10 TH	10 AM to 1 PM;	3 PM to 5 PM;	7 PM to 9 PM
Friday – September 11 th	10 AM to 2 PM		
Sunday – September 13 th	12 Noon to 2 PM		
Monday-Thursday – September 14 th -17 th	10 AM to 1 PM;	3 PM to 5 PM;	7 PM to 9 PM

Plainview Jewish Center

Cordially invites you to a Cocktail Reception

In Honor of our new Rabbi

Rabbi Steven Conn

Thursday, September 10, 2009

7:00 P.M.

Contact the temple office for information and reservations



A Happy and Sweet
New Year
to all my friends
and family at PJC

- Irving Weingarten

INSTALLATION
OF
RABBI STEVEN CONN!

Sunday, September 13th at 10:30AM

“Let Us Dream Together”
is the theme,
as well as the hope as to what we can
accomplish together for the
Plainview Jewish Center,
our community, our country, our world,
our families and for our own personal goals
and dreams in life.
We would be honored to have you share this
special moment with us.

HIGH HOLIDAY BABY-SITTING FACILITIES

Baby-sitting facilities, under mature and qualified supervision, will be available for children 3-5. Infants will NOT be admitted to the baby-sitting facilities or to the Family Service.

Our guards have been instructed to allow only adults to enter the classroom area in order to pick up their children. NO teenagers will be permitted in the classroom wing at any time.

ROSH HASHANAH

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH & 20TH

10:00 AM to 1:30 PM

YOM KIPPUR

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH

10:00 AM to 2:15 PM

HOLIDAYS

SELICHOT - SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH

(Penitential Prayers) signals us to prepare ourselves for the approaching High Holiday season.

ROSH HASHANAH - SATURDAY & SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH & 20TH

The beginning of the Jewish New Year, is also the beginning of the Ten Days of Penitence, which end with Yom Kippur. Sincere prayer and meditation help us to experience the reality of God and to dedicate ourselves anew to the establishment of His Kingdom on earth – the reign of freedom, justice and peace.

FAST OF GEDALIAH - MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST

Commemorates the climax of the disasters that befell the first Jewish commonwealth in 586 BCE.

SHABBAT SHUVAH - SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH

Derives its name from the Haftarah of that day, which begins with the word “Shuvah” – “Return” – i.e. Repent.

YOM KIPPUR - MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH

The Day of Atonement is a day of repentance, fasting and prayer when we strive to reawaken the latent spiritual power in our souls so that it may become an effective and directing force in our daily conduct.

SCHOOL NEWS By Rachel Ginsburg, Principal

Most Jews believe that Rosh Hashanah falls in the first month of the Jewish year. According to the Torah (Numbers 28:11, 29:1) Nisan is the first month of the Jewish calendar and Alef Tishre, which is the date for Rosh Hashanah, is during the seventh month. "In the seventh month, on the first day of the month, you shall observe a sacred occasion...you shall observe it as a day when the shofar is sounded."

So why do we celebrate the head of the year (Rosh Hashanah) in the seventh month? According to rabbis in the Talmud (Rosh Hashanah 11.a), Adam and Eve were created on Rosh Hashanah. So it is really the birthday of humanity and not the first day of the first month of the biblical Jewish calendar.

How do we celebrate the birthday of humanity each year? In many ways we do the same things that we do on regular birthdays. First, we send invitations for the occasion. These are the New Year greeting cards. We light candles, like lighting candles on a birthday cake. We eat something sweet (challah dipped in honey), like eating a birthday cake to give us a sweet taste in the mouth, and we sing songs.

Yet there is a unique component of Rosh Hashanah that we don't find on regular birthdays. On Rosh Hashanah, we reevaluate our deeds for the previous year and commit ourselves to do better in the future. We call it making repentance. First, we apologize for our previous sins and then we promise not to repeat the same mistakes again. We do this through special prayers and rituals. This way, the mood that we create on Rosh Hashanah is solemn. On the other hand, the mood that we create on regular birthdays is one of playfulness.

May all of us be inscribed in the book of life, for a good, healthy, sweet New Year.

Le Shana Tova

SCHOOL CALENDAR

- Sept 2 (Wed) Staff meeting – 4:00–6:00 PM
- 9 (Wed) First day for Alef, Bet, Daled, & Hey
- 11 (Fri) Family Friendly Service - 7:00–8:00 PM
- 13 (Sun) First day for Kind/Sun School, Mechina and Gimel – 9:00 AM–11:00 AM &
First day Tallit & Tefillah – Group A Session 1 – for both Daled & Hey
9:00 AM–11:00 AM in Youth Building
Kitah Daled 209 - 11:00 AM–1:00 PM – in classroom
- 14 (Mon) School Committee Meeting - 8:15 PM in the Library
- 18-20 (Fri-Sun) - Rosh Hashanah – No School
- 21 (Mon) School resumes for Hey & Daled 208
- 27-28 (Sun-Mon) Yom Kippur – No School

Hey students must bring tefillin to Tallit & Tefillah Services

FREE MONEY



Please help our Religious School earn free money
Save Box Tops from General Mills brand items
Either mail or deposit them in the Main or Education Office

**Ziploc – Kleenex – Hefty – Cheerios – Scott Paper
Gogurt – Kix – Betty Crocker
and many more !!**

CONGRATULATIONS! OUR B'NAI / B'NOT MITZVAH



ASHLEY STROMBERG
September 5, 2009

Ashley is the daughter of Susan and Michael Stromberg and has a brother, Zachary and a sister, Madison. She is an eighth grader at POB Middle School. Ashley enjoys soccer, volleyball and

spending time with her family and friends. Her favorite holiday is Passover which she celebrates with her family. Ashley will be making a donation to *Jordan's Foot-steps*.



MARC GROSSMAN
September 12, 2009

Marc is the son of Carol and Glenn Grossman. He is an eighth grader at Mattlin Middle School. Marc enjoys sports and especially likes the Mets. He is an honor student and was on the track team and in the symphonic band.

His favorite holidays are Chanukah and Passover because he celebrates with his family and eats special food. His mitzvah project was participating in the *Grandpals Club* at the Atria Assisted Living Home.

REMEMBER TO PURCHASE CANDY BAGS FOR YOUR BAR/BAT MITZVAH THROUGH OUR YOUTH GROUP - CONTACT THE TEMPLE OFFICE - 938-8610

Ballroom Dancing at PJC

Always wanted to learn to dance? Come learn with us!!!

PJC is offering Ballroom Dancing lessons for a fraction of the cost of a professional studio. Classes taught by an NDCA (National Dance Council of America) Certified Instructor

Ballroom ~ Latin ~ Swing

Eight Wednesday evenings from 8:30 pm – 9:30 pm

Dates: October 14th, 21st, November 4th, 11th, 18th,
December 2nd, 9th, and 16th.

Cost: \$180 per couple – members
\$240 per couple – non members



Please mail registration with class fee to: Plainview Jewish Center, 95 Floral Drive West, Plainview, NY 11803, attn: Ballroom Dancing. Any questions, please call Shari 516-349-7179.

Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Additional Couples: _____

Number Attending: _____ Amount Enclosed: _____

Who Would Ever Believe?

By Terri Heller

Life has a way of circling around and coming back. Hopefully when it does, it's to repeat a good part of your life. This time it surely has.

During the FFFNS, in honor of Rabbi Conn and his family, my husband Allan whispered to me, "I know this Rabbi from somewhere." I replied, "How could you? He's been in California and Buffalo." At the Oneg Shabbat, we went over to meet Rabbi Conn. Allan told him that he reminded him of a Rabbi he used to know. Rabbi Conn said; "Maybe I am." At this point I thought that Rabbi Conn had the best sense of humor and was leading Allan on. Then Allan asked, "Are you related to the Rabbi Conn from Brooklyn?" Rabbi Conn responded; "I was from Brooklyn, Madison Jewish Center." Allan and I could not believe our ears...Rabbi Conn was our Rabbi 19 years ago! I had chills!! All this time we did not recognize him without the beard and mustache he had worn then.

Now I know the meaning of "bershart". How many people could say that they had a Rabbi twice in their lives in two different places? I was "qvelling" to know that Rabbi Conn had come into our lives again. I owe so much to him. When I was 28, I took a his Hebrew class with my mother and father, of blessed memory. He is responsible for teaching me how to read Hebrew. Because of him, I became a Bat Mitzvah at 30! Now I am able to be a more active participant at services and have a stronger connection to Judaism, something I will cherish forever.

All I can say is, PJC you are so very lucky to have Rabbi Conn as your spiritual leader. He is everything a Rabbi should be and so very much more. He is intelligent, innovative, enthusiastic, warm, receptive, and caring of all. At this sad time in my life, with the recent passing of my father, I really needed a Rabbi to help me through. Now I know I have just the Rabbi and special friend to help me. Hence the meaning of Bershert.

Welcome Rabbi Conn, Illyse, and Yoni!!

PJC YOUTH CORNER

Hi! My name is Lois Lange and this is my 2nd year as the Youth Group director for Plainview Jewish Center. I look forward to meeting all of you at our youth group meetings on Sunday evenings. Tironim meets once a month and is for grades 4 and 5. Kadima meets once to twice a month and is for grades 6 through 8. USY meets weekly and is for grades 9 through 12. The program consists of various activities including arts and crafts, cooking, judaica and trips. Please come down to the youth house on Sunday, September 14th between 6:30-8:30pm to learn more about the youth programs and join. For more information, contact Lois Lange at lois_lange@yahoo.com or 516-426-6283.

WE WISH TO THANK AND EXPRESS OUR APPRECIATION TO THE FOLLOWING FAMILIES FOR THEIR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTION TO THE MORNING MINYAN:

**Rhona & Richard Liptzin
Phyllis & Robert Sarrel
Ida & Murray Kleiner
Fonda & Sam Leibowitz
Randy & David Goldstein**

**David A. Miller
Irving Weingarten
Zita & Richard Jospa
Sabrina Abishour
Rhoda Meshover**

**Pearl & Marty Plawsky
Wendy & Dennis Fingold
Estelle & Alan Hodes
Leah & Leonard Mandelbaum
Charlotte & Jack Weingarten
Amy & Abraham Fiszbein**

Family Education News by Judy Alper

The beginning of September always brings with it a flurry of activities welcoming us back to school and most certainly encouraging us to feel the welcoming atmosphere of our synagogue. The Jewish month of Tishrei is quickly approaching and with it Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur and very soon afterwards, Sukkot.

Get your calendars ready to make plans to participate in the following Family Education activities. For the third year we will be hosting two **Rosh Hodesh: It's a Girl Thing!** groups. The groups meet once a month, usually just prior to the beginning of the Jewish month and offer friendship, activities, and snacks that encourage learning and understanding of Jewish concepts, beliefs and personalities. The girls are enveloped in a program that offers famous Jewish women, past and present as role models and sources of strength as they grow into young Jewish women. Our first **Rosh Hodesh: It's a Girl Thing** meeting is Sunday, September 13th from 4:30-6:15pm for 6th grade girls and 5:45-7:30pm for 7th grade girls. Pizza dinner is included and ALL JEWISH GIRLS ARE WELCOME to join, whether or not they are members of PJC. Encourage your daughters and granddaughters and their friends to participate in this wonderful program!

The **Family Friendly Friday Night Service** continues its sixth year and we're looking for you to be part of it. Reserve Friday night, September 11th, for a refreshing way to start welcoming in the Jewish New Year. Everyone is welcome — young and old, single, couples and families. Join us for a very special service, an entertaining story and a delicious oneg afterwards. Bring your friends and family.

Did you ever wonder how to make a lulav shake? The Tishrei holidays are quickly approaching and so is our Lulav and Etrog sale. The lulav and etrog sets are a combination of the four species grown in Israel that help us celebrate Sukkot. The four species are the Etrog (citron) and palm, myrtle and willow leaves. Their fragrance and beauty help enhance our celebration and are a beautiful and special way to reinforce what our children learn in the Hebrew school. Contact Judy Alper for more information about purchasing a set. **Lulav and etrog sale** pickup will be on Wednesday, September 30th from 7:00 to 9:00 pm in the main lobby.

Save the following dates:

Saturday, October 3rd (following services and congregational Kiddush)...Sukkah Hop

Wednesday, October 7th - 6:30pm...Chinese Dinner in the Sukkah

For information or to make reservations on any of the above activities please email Judy Alper at jralps36@aol.com or call at 516-938-8610, ext. 113. Wishing everyone a very happy, healthy and prosperous new year.

**WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE
THE SUPPORT RECEIVED FROM THE**

FUND FOR JEWISH EDUCATION

SPONSORED BY

**CAROLINE AND JOSEPH S.GRUSS
LIFE MONUMENT FUNDS, INC.**

AND

UJA-FEDERATION OF NEW YORK

SISTERHOOD NEWS



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - Lynn Lederkramer

At midnight, at S'lichot services all over the world, prayers are chanted acknowledging the approach of the High Holiday season and the Ten Days of Repentance that will soon be upon us. This is our Jewish inheritance.

Every year at this time, we are called upon to take account of all our thoughts, words and deeds during the outgoing year. By "taking stock" in our behavior of the previous year while moving forward into the New Year, we are given the opportunity to improve ourselves. To change what needs to be changed, repair and improve what requires more perfection and to instill more enthusiasm and vitality into our personal lives as well as in the environment and the world.

As the summer ends and autumn begins, as our Synagogue welcomes Rabbi Conn and Sisterhood greets a New Year, I look ahead to working with the women who serve as our Board of Directors as well as meeting and greeting all our members. I look forward to gathering together at meetings and fundraisers, working together to raise funds for the synagogue, the Religious School, the seminary as well as many other worthy causes.

I invite you to join in as we move ahead to the New Year with renewed hope in our future, united in Sisterhood.

MEMBERSHIP Doreen Guzik - Membership Vice President

Hi Ladies! I hope the summer was wonderful for everyone. It's that time of year again that we ask you to join Sisterhood and be part of a wonderful group of women. There are a lot of different ways to get involved. Come down to our first meeting on Tuesday evening, September 8th at 8:15 and meet other Sisterhood members as well as our Sisterhood board and hear about what is being planned and how you can participate. We will have a very interesting program that evening that you won't want to miss! You can pay your dues by mail or at any of our meetings. We are looking forward to greeting you.

FUNDRAISING Rose Weiner - Fund Raising Vice President

Welcome back to a new year in Sisterhood. I want to thank all the ladies who attended our Summer Bingo and Pizza Party. A good time was had by all. It was nice seeing many new faces.

Just to remind everyone that gift certificates (used as a debit card) for Shop-Rite and Pathmark can be purchased in the temple office. This is an easy way to support Sisterhood and PJC.

Our committee is busy planning fund raising events for this coming year. So please check future issues of ORBIT and temple mailings for all upcoming Fund Raising events so that you will not miss them.

FOOD CERTIFICATES

**Please remember that Food Certificates
are always available at the Temple office.
By supporting Sisterhood, you support PJC!**

PROGRAM Elyse Schrage & Debbie Zaglin - Programming Co-Vice Presidents

Welcome back to another year of great programs from the Sisterhood of Plainview Jewish Center. Please come down to our first meeting on Tuesday evening, Sept. 8th to see old friends and make new ones. There will be a wonderful program entitled **“Knock Wood/Kinahora: Superstitions Old and New”** given by Carol Cott Gross, a well known columnist who has written in publications such as the NY Times, Newsday and Jewish Week and has lectured on this topic in many other Jewish venues.

Did your Mother put a red “bendel” in your baby’s crib? Did you recite, “Step on a crack and you’ll break your mother’s back?” and hop over the cracks on the way to school? Did your kids smear their names on their birthday cake with their pinkie, or hold their breath when you were driving past a cemetery? Using fairy tales, nursery rhymes, and a sense of humor Carol Cott Gross will talk about Jewish cycle of life superstitions, along with new superstitions being “invented” by Long Island teens. **Sisterhood members should bring along a family superstition to share and deconstruct.** Please join us for this very enjoyable evening.

Program Committee: Elyse Schrage, Debbie Zaglin, Ellen Hayman

EDUCATION Bunny Finkelstein - Education Vice President

Welcome to all our new and returning members. We hope you had a great summer. We are already working on finding interesting and educational activities for everyone and would like your input in our selections. If you have any suggestions or special interests please feel free to contact us.

During this past year we have seen much interest and participation of Sisterhood women in Sabbath services. This is just wonderful. May this participation continue and grow. We are beginning to plan Sisterhood/Mens Club Sabbath services and are always looking for new people to chant the Haftorah and for those who would like to learn a Hebrew part, small or large. If you are interested, please let us know.

In the last weeks of September we will begin our preparation for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Rosh Hashanah translates as the ‘head of the year’ and begins at sundown on September 18th, which is Erev Tishrei. We then observe the Jewish New Year for two days, the first and second days of Tishrei that corresponds to September 19th and September 20th. On Rosh Hashanah our traditional meal includes a round challah, symbolic of the hope of a smooth new year and apple slices dipped in honey to express our hope for a sweet and fruitful year. The next ten days are known as the Ten Days of Repentance. It is a time for each of us to reflect on the past year and to re-evaluate, repent and pray. It is also a time of great hope as we ask to be sealed in the Book of Life and be given good health and happiness for the coming year. The last day, Yom Kippur, begins at sundown September 27th, is a fast day and the holiest and most solemn day in the Jewish religion. Yom Kippur ends at sunset September 28th with the symbolic “blowing of the Shofar” proclaiming “Next Year in Jerusalem.”

Our Wishes to everyone for a very healthy, happy and sweet New Year. L’Shannah Tovah!
Bunny Finkelstein-Education Vice President, Doris Cooper and Zita Jospa – Education Chairpeople

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Mitzvah Committee: Call Temple Office: 938-8610 (Shiva Set-up & Shiva Chairs Available)

Z'HAVA

The Sisterhood of Plainview Jewish is pleased to announce the formation of a Z'HAVA group and we would love for you to be a part of it. Z'Havah is the Women's League program geared towards younger members. We are seeking women in the congregation who want to interact with their peers. Z'Havah is about Learning, Living, Linking and Sharing. Our goal is to enrich the younger women at PJC and to develop future leaders in our Sisterhood. Your Sisterhood dues of \$50.00 also covers your membership in Z'Havah. Please check the Z'Havah box when you send back you dues.

The Z'Hava Commitee

Come and Join us for our kickoff Meeting of Z'havah
Tuesday, September 15th - 8:15 PM
Bring your favorite Brisket recipe to share
Refreshments will be served*

**Z'havah...*

*Is a new special interest group under the umbrella of PJC Sisterhood,
Z'hava is about learning, living, linking and sharing.
For more information contact Cindy Getzoff – 516 - 286 -5232*

JUDAICA SHOP

The Sisterhood Judaica Shop at the Plainview Jewish Center has many items for all your gift needs. We have a large selection of mezuzahs, jewelry and headcoverings for both men and women. We have serving pieces including platters and utensils for all your entertaining needs.

WHEN YOU THINK GIFTS, THINK SISTERHOOD JUDAICA!

TORAH FUND - Cindy Getzoff, Torah Fund Coordinator

On Tuesday, July 14th, Sisterhood sponsored a trip to the Jewish Theological Seminary. It was a magical day for everyone who attended. We were given a tour of the JTS facility by a student who attends the seminary. He gave us a great amount of information on the physical building and the past history of the seminary. We began our tour in the Women's League Egalitarian Synagogue which was recently renovated - it previously was the JTS library. We continued our tour with a visit to a very modern lecture hall filled with beautiful murals depicting women in the bible. Our tour ended with a presentation of books, murals and calendars from the JTS Rare Book Library. It was very educational and inspirational to see where our future rabbi's and cantors study. We were able to see how important our Torah Fund contributions are in fostering the continuity of conservative Judaism.

We are happy to welcome our new torah fund chair Barbara Knoll. We look forward to working with her. Our Chai Celebration is planned for November. More details will follow.

Torah Fund cards can be purchased for any life cycle occasion. The cost is \$4.00 per card and the money raised is used to support JTS programs. Cards may be purchased at Sisterhood meetings or by contacting:

Cindy Getzoff - 938-0812; Joyce Rimer - 433-4826; Barbara Knoll - 935-3553

**WE WISH TO THANK AND EXPRESS OUR DEEP APPRECIATION TO
THE FOLLOWING FAMILIES FOR THEIR DONATION TO PJC:**

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 Gale Pine – Aliyah
 Linda & Robert Englander – Tree of Life Plaque
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 Barbara & Scott Birnbaum – In Honor of Nanette Strenger's Birthday
 Eileen & Ed Fleischman – Extended Kiddush
 Robin & Howard Kaufman – Extended Kiddush
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 Shirley & Robert Werner – Extended Kiddush
 Anne & Ed Fryman – Extended Kiddush
 Harriette & Jeff Gold – Extended Kiddush
 Greta Greenbaum – Mishaberach
 Adria & Joseph Erlich
 Sharon & Noah Kunoff - Mishaberach; Holocaust Fund

Sisterhood Special Project: M'Yad L'Yad by Sharon Kunoff

Welcome back to a New Year of Sisterhood. To those of you who are new to our Sisterhood, I would like to introduce you to Sisterhood's special project, M'yad L'yad - from Hand to Hand. For the past few years our Sisterhood has sponsored a needy family. We don't know the names of our family, nor do they know who we are. The family we sponsor consists of a single mom who is recovering from cancer and has just gone through a divorce. She has two daughters, an autistic child who will be seven in November and will be going into second grade and a five year old. For identification purposes, the older child is referred to as Samantha, her sister is Jordyn and the Mom is Stacy. Gifts of clothing, new or gently used, are always welcome. Clothing sizes for the girls (as of April) were 6, 7 and 8 for pants, medium or small for tops and size 6 dresses with shoe sizes 12 and 13. Of course kids grow rapidly. So if your children or grandchildren have outgrown last year's things and you have appropriate sizes or a size larger, please consider donating them.

Our last information on special desires was that Samantha is now getting occupational therapy and is developing new interests. She likes Barbie dolls, easy 9 piece puzzles and Leapsters (a kind of interactive learning game). Jordyn is developing well and surprised her mom by saying that 100-piece puzzles were too easy! She would be challenged with some 100 - 200 piece puzzles. She loves all kind of art projects and Little Pet Shop toys. If any of you have Leapster games that your children are no longer using, they would be most welcome. Stacy never asks for anything but she has mentioned that she loves movies and the family owns a DVD player. If you have any family appropriate DVD's, we can send them along.

Monetary donations or gift cards to Trader Joe's and Dr. B. Well Naturally (which carry the special gluten free and cassein free foods Stacy needs for her daughter) as well to Stop and Shop, Target, Petco and Old Navy would be most appreciated.

As of this writing, we are readying a package for the family to receive before school starts and we will also get a package together late in October or early November. The last we heard, their economic situation was not good but we hope that by the time you read this, things may have improved. They do appreciate all we do for them.

Contact Rhonnie at Pamba66@aol.com or 433-4721 or Sharon at Skunoff@optonline.net or 694-1896 if you have any items to donate. It is always best to email both of us. If you call, leave a message at both numbers in case one of us is away to ensure your information is received.

Sisterhood wants to thank all of you for continuing to be so responsive to this family. Not only do you support our fund raisers which help the Plainview Jewish Center family, but you also understand the mitzvah of helping the community at large.

Shannah tova tikvatenu, we wish you all a sweet and happy 5770!!.

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Institute for Adult Jewish Studies

Plainview Jewish Center is going electronic and the Institute for Adult Jewish Studies, our local Consortium for Jewish Learning has also joined the crowd. You can find us at www.IAJS.org. We will be posting our brochure as soon as it is available. Meantime all the information is known, so you can find a condensed preview here. Registration for the 2009-2010 series begins on October 19, at 7:45pm at the Woodbury Jewish Center. Registration is followed at 9pm by our first lecture. The remaining lectures are on the next eight Monday evenings also at Woodbury at 9pm. You can choose from 9 different classes. You can find the actual classes with descriptions on both the PJC and IAJS websites. Check them out. Especially be on the lookout for our own Rabbi Conn's class, **Everyday Spirituality: How Judaism Brings us Closer to God One Day at a Time**. Cost for the entire series including January remains at \$35 for members of PJC or any of the other sponsoring congregations. Non Members are charged \$45, so bring your friends. This is an educational program subsidized for the community. Students under 25 are welcome at no charge. Our programs are suitable for late Middle School and High School as well as College students. The program provides excellent enrichment to their formal Jewish Studies.

We have something for everyone. Our nine one hour lectures range from Philosophy on October 19th, when Professor Menachem Kellner discusses **Does a Jew Have to Believe in Anything?**, to Biology on October 26th when Jon Entine considers **Abraham's Children: The Genetics of the Jewish People**. On November 2nd, we study some history, as Professor Stanslao Pugliese gives us **Two Thousand Years of Jewish History**. November 9th is a history of politics as Suzanne Braun Levine discusses **Bella Abzug: One Tough Broad From the Bronx**. On November 16th, story teller, Penninah Schram will remind us of our traditions with **Jewish Oral Tradition: Stories One Generation Tells Another**. Next, on November 30th, we look into some art history as Rabbi Benjamin Blech tells about **Michaelangelo's Hidden Jewish Message in the Sistine Chapel Ceiling**. November 30th brings us to medical issues as Kurt Stone brings us up to date on **Stem Cell Research and Jewish Law: Conflict or Consonance?** We will have a lecture on politics on December 7th, when Kurt F. Stone keeps us current with **The Congressional Minyan: The Jews of Capital Hill**. Our Fall series concludes on December 14th with our Chanukah program which, this year, is a Klezmer Duo presenting **Chanukah Cabaret**.

We will return in January with our four week January program for those hardy souls who are willing to go out in the evening in the heart of winter. Those of us who have been attending for many years have recollection of only one evening many years ago when we had to cancel for weather. This year our January session will be held at Temple Beth Elohim in Old Bethpage, an easy trip for PJC members. There will be lectures on four successive Monday evenings at 8pm starting January 4th. This year we are trying something different for our first two sessions. We have offered our podium to two of our long time Rabbi volunteer teachers. Rabbi Reuven Mann, of Rinat Yisrael of Plainview is leaving the area this winter and we especially wanted all of our members to have the opportunity to hear him speak. He will be our first winter Lecturer and will speak on **Christian Zionism: The Danger and the Opportunity**. The following week Rabbi Perry Rank of Midway Jewish Center, one of the founding synagogues of our organization, is a long time supporter of and volunteer teacher for IAJS. He will show a different side when he lectures on **Math, Physics and God**. It certainly is an enticing topic!! The last two weeks will be more in keeping with recent tradition of our organization. Islam is a subject that many of us would like to know more about. Naomi Greenspan will present the next two lectures on that topic. The first will be **Islam on One Foot: Basic Teachings and Basic Texts**. This will be followed at are last lecture on January 25th by, **Muslims and Jews in History: Friends or Foes?** There are no classes in January.

We hope many of you will join us for the entire series. You can also come for a single evening at \$10 per evening. January alone is \$10 per session or \$25 for the four lectures. Any questions, contact me at skunoff@optonline.net or 516 694-1896.

Sharon Kunoff

From The Rabbi (continued from Page 4)

capacity. That what we believe. And I don't know of another religion that is more optimistic about what we as human beings can do if we set our minds to it.

I am delighted to be serving as the rabbi of our congregation. PJC already seems like home. We are a congregation with a long and successful history, and a welcoming and committed group of members, located in a premier Jewish community. I am very optimistic about our future. I am optimistic because our synagogue is made up of great people; people who, as individuals and as a group, are capable of great things. The people who founded our synagogue, some of whom are still part of our congregation today, devoted countless hours and tremendous resources to building our congregation. No doubt they had their setbacks along the way. But more than fifty years later, we have a vibrant congregation that provides caring, learning and inspiration for more than five hundred families. We have the privilege and the responsibility of building upon this success.

There is no doubt that we have the capacity to do so. Just as people can always do better, can always learn and grow—so can congregations. The path is the same for congregations as it is for us as individuals. The first step is taking time out to take stock of where we are as a congregation; what we do well, what we could do better. And we have a great opportunity to do that this year. Rabbinic transitions are a very exciting time. Like any new beginning, Rabbinic transitions also tend to inspire a great deal of reflection. Many of us, I am sure, have been thinking about what having a new rabbi might mean for PJC.

I would like to take advantage of this opportunity to learn from all of you. I would like to open up a conversation among us about PJC; to help us spend some time together taking stock of where we are and where we would like to go. During this time, I intend to do a lot of listening and a lot of learning. I do not expect that we will be making a lot of major changes. We need to get to know each other first, and to reflect on who we are and who we want to be as a rabbi and a congregation. To the extent that we are able, even these busy first few months, to spend some time taking stock of ourselves, we will be better able to set our direction for the future.

I am very much looking forward to being part of the process of shaping the future for PJC. I come to this role with a great deal of humility. A tremendous amount of time and effort has gone into making PJC the strong and vibrant congregation it is today. I plan to spend much of my first few months just being in the synagogue; making myself available to you, and learning more about the history, traditions and culture of PJC. I also plan to spend a lot of time getting to know all of you, and hearing from you about what you love about PJC and your vision for the future. In the long term, I hope to be an active partner with all of you in charting our course for the future; to learn and to grow along with you for many years to come. I firmly believe that we can do great things together as partners committed to building a bright future for our synagogue. I know that, as an optimist, I have not only chosen the right career in becoming a rabbi. I believe I am also in the right synagogue, Plainview Jewish Center; a congregation that is, and will continue to be, a vibrant and warm synagogue, in which we continually strive to better serve our members, our community, and the entire Jewish people.

On behalf of Illyse, Yoni, Ben and Dalya, I would like to wish everyone L'shana tova tikatayvu, may you be inscribed for a good, healthy and successful new year.



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Dear Readers.

In an effort to be fiscally responsible and to reduce spending at the temple, the Orbit will be online as of September. Copies of Orbit will be emailed to your email address on/ or before the first of the month. To ensure a smooth transition, please make sure that you provide the temple office with your current email. Don't forget to send us email address for your college students who would like to receive Orbit! Copies of Orbit will also be available in the temple office for anyone who does not have access to a computer.

This change will result in a significant reduction of printing and mailing costs and, it might even save a tree!



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PJC Members

MEN'S CLUB by Stephen Taub

Welcome back. Hope you had a great summer. If it is September, then it must mean it is time for the Men's Club's annual Welcome barbecue. This year it will take place on Tuesday, September 15th at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is invited. You can pay your dues or just check it out and see whether PJC's Men's Club is for you. We'll have the usual feast and open bar. So come on down and hear about the upcoming year's exciting program, including the annual staples—October Meet the Candidates, our Chanukah Party and Purim Party and, of course, our recently revitalized Patio Players show, which is already planning their spring performance. So, come on down and join us and bring your friends. They don't need to be a Temple member to join Men's Club.

Come on down Tuesday evening, September 29th, to help us erect the Sukkah. This is the first time we will do this under the lights. You don't have to be handy to give a hand. There is also great camaraderie.

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