



# *Jewish Residents of Leisure World*

*Silver Spring, MD 20906*

## **N e w s l e t t e r**

Iyar/Sivan 5769

Norma and Burt Kirschner—Editors

May 2009

### **President's Message**

#### **MAY---A TIME OF ASSESSMENT**

As we approach the annual meeting of the JRLW May 21<sup>st</sup>, it is a time to look back on the past year and review our accomplishments, successful ventures and those which have not fared as well as we had planned. It is a time for each of us to evaluate both what we obtained from the organization as opposed to what we put into the process.

Your officers and committees have endeavored to bring you the best, or sometimes the best that is possible or available. A good part of achieving success relies on the reception and participation of the members of the organization... Participation enhances the success of any endeavor.

Saying that, we have much to be thankful for. We also have much more to look forward to in the coming year.

Our religious activities are very successful and growing in the numbers of participants and the active participation of members in the conduct of the services and programs. Members of our Religious Committee are to be congratulated for some fine work. The number of people now attending services far exceeds that of the past. Members chanting portions of the service, the Torah, Haftorahs and Dvar Torahs make us proud.

Programming has been successful in bringing us excellent speakers and entertainment at our monthly breakfasts and meetings. Sheila Chodorov has introduced a series of afternoon free workshops on a variety of subjects.

Our events Coordinator Eleanor Prissman working with chairs such as Marilyn Fox, Joanne Gould and Fred Firnbacher have made successes of programming that has included such events as the Kristallnacht, Malaveh Malkah, Second Seder and our annual meetings.

Education under Bernie Kahn and now Mort Rudo has been working to bring courses to Leisure World that will expand the subject matter addressed and available instructors to teach the courses. Working with Jewish Federation of GW and the JCC of GW, as well as the in-house Center for Lifelong Learning, plans are in progress to bring a fresh look to our offerings and an increased menu from which residents can select subjects to enlighten or elaborate their exposure to the arts, literature and history.

In every area of JRLW activity, the chairs and their committees have been working hard to provide LW residents with the best possible Jewish experience. There are many I have not named here but they are not being overlooked. They have all been invaluable. Unfortunately, space is limited.

To all the people who have worked with us this year, the officers and I want you to know that the best is yet to come. Speaking on behalf of my President Elect Dolly Solomon, Treasurer Susan Weiss, Corresponding Secretary David Firestone, Recording Secretary Sue Rudo and Parliamentarian Fran Feder, we thank you for your support.

*Fred Shapiro*

#### **May 2009 Religious Services...**

- ★ Friday evening Conservative services hosted by Na'Amat, will be held on May 1, 2009 at 8:00PM in the Inter-Faith Chapel. Our Rabbi Gary Fink will officiate assisted by Cantor Emeritus Mark Levi and Ed Laskin who will lead the JRLW choir. A sociable and succulent Oneg Shabbat will follow services.
- ★ Saturday morning Shabbat services will be held on May 9, 2009 at 9:30AM in the Activities Room of Clubhouse II. Justin Kramer will be at his accustomed place leading the Preliminary service, Cantor Michael Kravitz will lead and read Torah assisted by lay members of JRLW. Ray Sachs will chant Haftorah, Mike Kravitz will also lead Shachrit and Fred Shapiro will deliver a D'var Torah. A Kiddush featuring bagels and lox will follow.
- ★ A Conservative service will be held every Sunday morning in May at 8:45AM in Clubhouse II, Meeting Room 2 with Rabbi Jonah Layman officiating.
- ★ Shavu'ot/Yizkor services will be held at 9:30AM on May 30<sup>th</sup> in Clubhouse II

## ❖ JRLW News and Goings on...

### JRLW Annual Meeting

All JRLW members are invited and, indeed, encouraged to attend the Annual Meeting coming up on May 21, 2009 at 7:30PM in the Crystal Ballroom of Clubhouse I.

Through the efforts of Sheila Chodorov, we're fortunate to have Rebecca Standberg as our speaker and you will also have the opportunity to vote for the members nominated for the positions of officers and directors of JRLW for the next couple of years. Also, be prepared to nominate, from the floor, candidates of your choice that were not already suggested by the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee's slate is, again, included as a flyer enclosed with this issue. Come, have a nosh, meet other members, vote and enjoy.

### JRLW Sunday Morning Breakfast Forum

The May Sunday Morning Breakfast will be held on Sunday, May 17th at 10:00AM in the Crystal Ballroom in Clubhouse I. This month's sponsor is Na'Amat RBZ Club. The program will feature Barry S. Lever, Special Projects consultant for the Jewish Museum of Maryland. Dr. Lever will speak about the Baltimore ship "Exodus" and its travels in 1947. There will be a slide show and a short film presentation.

After Dr. Lever's talk there will be a short period for probing and incisive questions from the floor.

- ▶ Enjoy a hot, full course buffet breakfast
- Members \$10.00—non-members \$12.00

We'll need your payment NLT then May 11, 2009 to allow LW Food Services, Inc., to plan and prepare the Breakfast. Please put your phone # on your check(s) and

Make check(s) to JRLW

(Please Do Not Send Cash Through The Mail—Mail Checks Only To):

**Bella Rapaport**

**3005 S. Leisure World Blvd. #301**

**Silver Spring, MD 20906**

(Please do not leave funds in E & R)

### SENIOR ART AND PHOTO SHOW AT JCCGW

Works by members of the JRLW will be on view at the JCC of Greater Washington, 6125 Montrose Road, Rockville from May 17 to 31, 2009. The show will include painting, photographs, sculptures, jewelry, woodworking, craft and fiber art. Each artist has had one piece selected for the show. A reception for the artists and photographers will be held Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup> with family and friends

invited. Among the JRLW members in the show are Miriam Rothchild, Joy and Bob Stromberg, Flora Feld, Larry Mars, Joanne Mars, and one of your editors, Burt Kirschner. Admission is free

### CELEBRATION OF THE FOUNDING OF ISRAEL TO FEATURE THE ROBYN HELZNER TRIO

JRLW joins with the other Jewish organizations in Leisure World to celebrate the 61<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the founding of the State of Israel. All residents are invited to take part at a program that will feature the highly acclaimed Robyn Helzner Trio and a speaker from the Israeli Embassy. From Beijing to Boston, to Moscow and to Miami, the Robyn Helzner Trio inspires Jewish audiences to celebrate their cultural roots and non-Jewish listeners to appreciate a vital part of Jewish culture.



With rich vocal harmonies and dynamic instrumental arrangements, the Trio presents a diverse collection of new and traditional songs that celebrate the exuberant melodies of modern Israel and the folk songs of Eastern Europe. The program will take place in the Clubhouse II auditorium June 7, 2009 at 7:00PM. Tickets are available from the E&R office at a minimum donation of \$15.00 per person.

The Jewish Residents are co-sponsoring the event with B'nai B'rith, Hadassah, Na'Amat and the Jewish War Veterans. Proceeds in excess of the cost of the production will be donated to the Jewish National Fund's Water Replenishment Project. Currently, Israel is experiencing the worst water crisis in its history. JNF has committed to build another 40 reservoirs over the next few years. We must have your support for this urgent need.

### NEW REFORM PRAYER BOOKS FOR FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICES

Temple Beth Ami replaced their prayer books with the newest edition of the *Gates of Prayers*. With the kind assistance of Michael Firestone, President of Beth Ami and son of JRLW members David and Birdie Firestone, Beth Ami has donated 200 copies to us. The new Siddurim are now in the Chapel storeroom and will be used for the first time in our June services. You will be impressed by the ease of use during the service and the reduction in weight by almost half from our current prayer books.

**10-DAY MISSION TO ISRAEL****July 20 to 31, 2009**

JRLW, in conjunction with the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington, invites residents to join in a ten-day family tour of the land of Israel. Rabbis Bill and Gail Rudolph of Congregation Beth El of Montgomery County will lead the trip. Included will be Jerusalem and the Western Wall, Beit Shean, Tel Aviv, the Golan Heights and a rafting excursion down the Jordan River. It will be fun for all the members of the family. For more information contact Rinat Rozinov at 301-230-7264 or [missions@shalomdc.org](mailto:missions@shalomdc.org).

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New York Style Sit Down Deli Diner  
Come try our Jewish Favorites  
Leisure World Specials

Early Bird Specials M-F 3:30pm-5:30pm

### **❖ Programs of Interest Offered by Other Jewish Organizations**

**Continuing Jewish Education Programs**

JRLW will co-sponsor with Community Partners a program for Leisure World residents. Location: Clubhouse I (unless otherwise noted). Cost: \$15 for the series or \$6 per session; register at the E+R Office in Clubhouse I.

Tuesday, May 12 – 1:00-2:00 PM

Chagall: The Quintessential Jewish Artist of the Twentieth Century – Marc Chagall - Speaker: Sharon Salus-Professor, Univ of MD, Retired,

Wednesday, May 27 – 1:30-2:30 PM

Jewish Gangsters?! BUT They Were Good to Their Mothers! Speaker: Rabbi Gary Katz; Director of the Kislak Adult Center.

(Education continued...)

Wednesday, June 24 – 1:00-2:00 PM

Great Expectations: Strengthening and Nurturing Jewish Relationships

Speaker: Avi West, Director of the Shulamith Reich Elster Resource Center.

Tuesday, June 30 – Clubhouse II Auditorium at Leisure World – 1:00-3:30 PM.

Movie Matinee: “Making Trouble” followed by a reception – Special Guest Speaker: Gail Twersky Reimer, PhD.

### **Community Partners Educational Bus Trip to Ratner Museum Tuesday, June 16 – 11:00 AM Departure from Clubhouse II**

Lunch and Tour of The Dennis & Phillip Ratner Museum, 10001 Old Georgetown Road (corner of Lone Oak Drive), Bethesda. Following lunch at a local restaurant we will have a docent-led tour of the Ratner Museum with its permanent collection of Phillip Ratner’s art and sculpture as well as exhibits of the works of established professional emerging artists. Walking through here is literally like walking through the Bible - Cost: \$15 for lunch; Transportation: \$10.00. RSVP registrar, Joci Pearl – 301-348-7341.

### **JCC Satellite Programs at Congregation Har Tzeon-Agudath Achim**

Thursday, May 7- ‘Give our regards to Broadway’  
Len and Zeace Nadler

Thursday, May 14- How To Stay Young For The First Hundred Years.

Lecture and Screening  
Dr. Steve Baron

Thursday, May 21- L'dor V'dor: A look at the law.  
Hebrew Day School students

Contact Linda Wechsler at 301-348-3893 to reserve for bus pick-up or lunch.

**May Movies At The JCC**

Members of JRLW are invited to attend the movies at the JCC of Greater Washington in Rockville during the month of May.

Tuesday, May 3, 1 p.m. “Arranged”  
(social hall)

Tuesday, May 12 1 p.m. “God Grew Tired of Us” (Kreeger Auditorium)

Admission is Free.

**Final Shows At Café Kasrilevke**

The last two programs sponsored by Yiddish of Greater Washington will be at the JCC's Café Kasrilevke May 17 and June 14. For more information contact Kandy Hutman at 301-348-3864 or [khutman@jccgw.org](mailto:khutman@jccgw.org). Celebrate the precious memories and joys of the mama-loshen together.

May 17---Sholom Aleichem's Annual Yartzeit Program

June 14-- Annual Yiddish Gala *Shekhter-tekhter* starring composer Binyumen Schaechter and his 2 talented daughters, Reyna and Temma

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❖ **About Our Members**

**Flora Feld – Artist and Comedy Club Advocate**

Flora Feld has been a resident of Leisure World for over six years. She was born in New York but left as a child to live in Greensburg, Penna., West Chester, Penna. and Washington, D.C. where her Rabbi father's pulpits took the family. She was always active in sports and as the mother of three sons continued this interest.

Upon retiring from the National Institutes of Health where she worked as executive secretary to the Scientific Director of the National Institute of Child

(Flora Feld continued...)

Health and Human Development, her interests turned to art. She took many courses in painting, sculpting, drawing and jewelry making. She confines this interest to painting at home. Her family is the happy recipients of her efforts.



A new hobby since living in Leisure World has been the Comedy and Humor Club, of which she is the current

president. It's fun and laughter is good for the soul. Anybody got a good joke?

**Miriam Rothchild; LW Artist In Residence**

Miriam was born and raised in Washington, D.C., and has had an interest in drawing and painting ever since she was young, but had no opportunity to study until after her professional career ended. She retired in 1970 as a Lt. Colonel after twenty years of service in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps. She was awarded the Legion of Merit for her work in the Army.

Miriam and her husband, Phil, moved to Leisure World in 1977; in 1986 she started art classes. She learned to paint in oils, pastels, acrylics, and pen & ink, but mostly in watercolors.

Her work is displayed primarily in Leisure World. She also has had displays in the Olney Library, Woodlawn Mansion, Boher Park and the Maryland State Delegates Office Building. Twelve of her paintings have been featured on the covers of the Consultant Pharmacist Journal.

She is a member of the Olney Art Association and is the editor of their bi-monthly newsletter. One of her paintings won an Honorary Mention in the 2007 Juried show. She has been a member of the Rossmoor Art Guild since 1986 and served as President of the Guild for four terms

**Moses—First Talmudic Scholar**

G-d: "And remember Moses, in the laws of keeping Kosher, never cook a calf in its mother's milk. It is cruel."

Moses: "Ohhhhhh! So you are saying we should never eat milk and meat together."

G-d: "No, what I'm saying is, never cook a calf in its mother's milk."

Moses: "Oh, Lord forgive my ignorance! What you are really saying is we should wait six hours after eating meat to eat milk so the two are not in our stomachs."

G-d: "No, Moses, what I'm saying is, never cook

a calf in its mother's milk!!!"

Moses: "Oh, Lord! Please don't strike me down for my stupidity! What you mean is we should have a separate set of dishes for milk and a separate set for meat and if we make a mistake we have to bury that dish outside..."

G-d: "Oiy Moishe, Moishe—do whatever you want...."

### Shavu'ot

*You shall count for yourselves -- from the day after the Shabbat, from the day when you bring the Omer of the waving -- seven Shabbats, they shall be complete. Until the day after the seventh Sabbath you shall count, fifty days... You shall convoke on this very day -- there shall be a holy convocation for yourselves -- you shall do no laborious work; it is an eternal decree in your dwelling places for your generations. -Leviticus 21:15-16, 21*

Shavu'ot, the Festival of Weeks, is the second of the three major festivals with both historical and agricultural significance (the other two are Passover and Sukkot). Agriculturally, it commemorates the time when the first fruits were harvested and brought to the Temple, and is known as Hag ha-Bikkurim (the Festival of the First Fruits). Historically, it celebrates the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai, and is also known as Hag Matan Torateinu (the Festival of the Giving of Our Torah).

The period from Passover to Shavu'ot is a time of great anticipation. We count each of the days from the second day of Passover to the day before Shavu'ot, 49 days or 7 full weeks, hence the name of the festival. The counting reminds us of the important connection between Passover and Shavu'ot: Passover freed us physically from bondage, but the giving of the Torah on Shavu'ot redeemed us spiritually from our bondage to idolatry and immorality. Shavu'ot is also known as Pentecost, because it falls on the 50th day; however, Shavu'ot has no particular similarity to the Christian holiday of Pentecost, which occurs 50 days after their spring holiday.

It is noteworthy that the holiday is called the time of the *giving* of the Torah, rather than the time of *receiving* the Torah which Jews do everyday.



### FYI

#### CRUISE GREECE TO ROME VIA ISRAEL SAILING OCTOBER 17, 2009 FOR 14 DAYS

We are letting our members know that there is a cruise of the Mediterranean scheduled for October, 2009 that will commence in Greece, visit Israel and end in Rome. Along the way, stops will be made at Rhodes, Turkey, Israel, Egypt, Malta, Sicily and Naples. The 14-day cruise aboard Holland America Rotterdam is a panorama of the ancient cradle of civilization. The two days in Israel will be at Haifa, a modern city overlooked by Mount Carmel, and Ashdod, the traditional land of the Philistines. Special pricing for this trip ranges from \$1,770 to \$2,270.00 including taxes. For further information contact Jay at 301-598-3346 or Evelyn at 301-598-1698.

#### Prayer Book Inscription Program

The donation cost for inscribing a Siddur (prayer book) was recently reduced to \$25.00 to encourage JRLW members, their families and friends to embrace the Prayer Book program to memorialize a loved one, celebrate a family simcha or recognize a life achievement.

We also have established a Torah Maintenance and Restoration Fund. Donations to this latter fund insure the maintenance of our Torahs and allows JRLW, from time to time, to rescue and restore Torahs from the Holocaust period. To make a prayer book or Torah Fund donation contact Ellen Zweig, Chairperson, at 301 598 2144; 3210 N. Leisure World Blvd. #504, Silver Spring, MD 20906. Ellen will be most happy to help you to compose the inscription.



