

Ezra-Habonim, the Niles Township Jewish Congregation

SISTERHOOD CORNER—June, 2021

Judy Frank, President (judy@tcscorp.com) Judy Arkin, Editor (kjarkin99@comcast.net)

From the President's Desk...

It's difficult to believe how fast five years have flown by as I am now ending my term as president of the Sisterhood at EHNTJC. It has been a wonderful experience for me as I feel that I have grown so much in my leadership role. I learned and participated in many programs from Women's League and Torah Fund and experienced the importance of *Tikkun Olam*, repairing the world and giving back to the community.

I have had great Sisterhood boards to work with, and the women on the board made our Sisterhood look exemplary, both to the synagogue and extended community. We had wonderful Sisterhood programs, did several mitzvah projects for the community and planned many programs for our entire synagogue to take part in and enjoy. During the period when we were all in isolation because of COVID, we were able to offer many special programs to our synagogue members, sharing how we could best handle the situation as it was progressing. Sisterhood had an exceptional amount of programs this past year on *Zoom* as we knew people were at home looking for activities to keep them busy and in contact with each other.

Several women on our past and current boards have really helped to make our Sisterhood shine. I can't thank Diane Rosenfeld and Gloriann Levy enough for planning our programs; a shout out to Esther Javetz for planning many education events; a special thank you to Ada Rabinowitz for attracting and retaining our members; thanks to our fundraising chairs over the years - Judy Arkin, Phyllis Dickstein, Ronia Gross and Fran Givertz. Thank you to Shimrah Bullock-Adkins and Judi Stein, our recording secretaries, and Idelle Peaceman and Flora Steigman, our corresponding secretaries. Debbie Reich is "one in a million" who has done more than a treasurer's job. She has done so much for our Sisterhood, too numerous to mention. Our Torah Fund Chairs, Rose-Lynn Jaffe and Evie Lowenthal, kept us well educated about Torah Fund. Rose-Lynn was also our *Zoom* host extraordinaire and without her, our Sisterhood would not have functioned much this past year during the pandemic.

I also want to thank everyone who has been on the board over the past five years. You were all great assets to our Sisterhood. I want to remember Ricki Herling z'l, may her memory be for a blessing. She was our Social Action Chair who spearheaded many wonderful projects, involving the entire synagogue membership.

And of course, a huge thank you to all our Sisterhood members for your love and support!

B'Shalom! Judy Frank

**Our next BOOK CLUB will be on
Wednesday, June 16th at 10:30 a.m.
to discuss (on Zoom)**

"Henna House" by Nomi Eve

A beautifully written story of a young woman growing up in Yemen during the 1920's and 1930's. Right away, you're transported back in time to a very primitive world, a world without any kind of modern day conveniences, a world where religious and superstitions played a central role in the lives of the people. We learn a lot about this world through the eyes of five-year-old Adela.

Join us for a lively discussion!

Book Club Co-Chairs

Elaine Lampert (847)537-1240

Linda Ehrensaft (847)991-2567

Remembering Ricki Herling

Ricki had a passion for Social Action. As chair of our Sisterhood Social Action Committee, Ricki headed up many successful projects. Last summer, she spearheaded a major project donating blankets to The Ark. Ricki purchased the blanket kits, adding some of her own money to the Sisterhood donation. With her encouragement and through the work of Sisterhood and synagogue members, 23 blankets were donated. Ricki organized the collection of gift cards at Chanukah for the children at JCFS and spearheaded food drives for the Niles Township Food Pantry and The Ark. On April 15th, Ricki arranged a "baby shower" to collect baby supplies for the Niles Township Food Pantry. This event enabled us to deliver three carloads of baby supplies!

Thank you Ricki for your compassion, your creativity, your hard work and your friendship to so many.

News and Notes...

Be a media mogul! A \$5 contribution makes you a sponsor of our Sisterhood Bulletin.

Please mail your contributions to:
Judy Arkin c/o EHNTJC Sisterhood
4500 Dempster Street • Skokie, IL 60076

Our Media Moguls this month are:

Esther Berman

(with deep gratitude to everyone for their kindness and continuous support during Roger's recovery,

Joan Cook

(in honor of the birthdays of granddaughter Kristen Dressler and nephew Stephen Ruken, and the anniversary of cousins Judy and Cliff Barasch),

Fran Givertz

(in honor of niece Kimberly Nicole O'Leary's marriage to Andrew Kiselica and my sister Toni's birthday),

Mickey Gordon

(in honor of my grandchildren),

Elaine Lampert

(celebrating 50 years of marriage),

Bobbie Levin,

Esther Manewith

(in honor of our grandchildren),

Dori Marks, Ada Rabinowitz,

Diane Rosenfeld

(in gratitude for my grandson Joshua Winick's safe return from Israel, in honor of my grandchildren—Lexi and Max Schmarak and Zev Winick on their graduations from middle school, and in memory of my father, Dr. David J. Raynes, on his yahrtzeit)

Judi Stein and Veronika Urban

Good and Welfare...

- **Refuah Shlama** to Idelle Peaceman, Esther Javetz and Joanne Abelman.
- **Mazel Tov** to Bobbie and Stuart Levin on their 65th wedding anniversary.
- **Mazel Tov** to Zahava Fenig on the birth of her daughter, Malka Leah.
- **Mazel Tov** to Evie Lowenthal on the Bat Mitzvah of her granddaughter, Shana Moskowitz.
- **Mazel Tov** to Esther Manewith on the Bar Mitzvah of her grandson, Nate Manewith.
- **Mazel Tov** to Janice Solovy on the Bar Mitzvah of her grandson, Joshua Solovy.
- **Mazel Tov** to Jan Eisbart on the Bat Mitzvah of her granddaughter, Daphne Bernstein

Our *Sisterhood* is
an affiliate of



EDUCATION CORNER

by Dr. Esther Javetz, Education VP

Sisterhood Members Active in Services

First, I would like to thank all the ladies who took part in Sisterhood Shabbat on May 8th. Our leadership received phone calls, texts and e-mails from people who were on Zoom or in-person in the synagogue and who complimented us on the event. There were 23 women as part of the service plus Rabbi Weill. Ricki Herling practiced for Torah chanting but passed away a few weeks prior. Let her memory be for a blessing.

This was the first time Sisterhood conducted a regular Shabbat Service without extra English readings. The secret was assigning each person a small part so it could be rehearsed and performed without much difficulty.

Our next step is to offer Sisterhood members regular participation in services on a rotating basis (once every few months). If you prefer a certain part, send me an e-mail and we'll work through the Religious Services Committee to get you on the schedule. Active participation in services is allowing more people to participate and also prepares us through practice for Sisterhood religious events.

Some might need help with the Hebrew and some might be unsure about the tune (the musical part), but help is available—just jump into the water!

TODAH RABAH • תודה רבה • THANK YOU

- Thank you to all the Sisterhood ladies for the overwhelming good wishes in honor of my birthday.....Mickey Gordon.
- Thank you to everyone for your good wishes for my recovery and in honor of my new great-granddaughter.....Idelle Peaceman.
- Thank you to Roz Cherry for her donation in beloved memory of Ricki Herling.
- Thank you to Judy and Art Klowden for their donation in beloved memory of Walter Straus.
- Thank you to the Sisterhood for the Leagrams in honor of my 80th birthday and for Ada's phone call. It was so thoughtful.....Lorraine Horwitz.
- Thank you to Goldie Brandhandler for her generous donation in appreciation of her Sisterhood Shabbat honor.
- Thank you to Barbara Werner for her kind donation in honor of our incoming Sisterhood Board.
- Special thanks to all who have made donations in support of our Sisterhood programming!

“Experience is the hardest kind of teacher. It gives you the test first and the lesson afterward.”

Oscar Wilde