

SISTERHOOD CORNER—January, 2023

Diane Rosenfeld, President (raynesd@aol.com) Judy Arkin, Editor (kjarkin99@comcast.net)

From the President's Desk...

I have just returned from the funeral of Sisterhood and congregation member, Goldie Brandhandler. As I write this article, I am reflecting about the many tributes I heard today about this very special woman. She had been a leader in both Sisterhood and Women's League in the 1950's, 60's, 70's and beyond at Ner Tamid Congregation in West Rogers Park. She served as president of that Sisterhood and participated in a very special project—transcribing books into Braille. Our condolences to Goldie's family on the passing of this lovely woman.

At this time, I am also preparing for Chanukah and looking forward to celebrations with family and friends. I am happy to share with you a few Chanukah customs in other parts of the world.....

Jews in one region of France, called **Alsace**, commonly used double-decker menorahs with space for 16 lights rather than 8. The second set of lights was used so that both a father and his son could light a candle together on one menorah.

In **Budapest**, Chanukah is a huge deal. Every year, the city hosts the Quarter 6/Quarter 7 Festival, named after the districts that make up Budapest's historic Jewish quarter. For 8 nights, citizens celebrate with flash mobs, concerts, theatre performances, and special Chanukah menus at local restaurants.

In **Yemen and other North African countries**, the 7th night has adopted new meaning. This night is reserved for celebrating women, inspired by heroines of the Torah, specifically Hannah—a woman who sacrificed 7 sons to protect Judaism against Greek pressure to convert, and Judith, a woman who helped to lead the Maccabean army to a fantastic win.

Please join us on zoom for our January and February programs which will focus on Jewish life and culture in other countries. On January 4th we will learn about *Notable Ukrainian Jews Who Influenced Our World*, and we will see a program on *The Jews of Cuba* on February 1st.

Happy and Healthy New Year to all of you and your families!

L' Shalom, Diane Rosenfeld

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

(in honor of my grandchildren),

Joan Cook

*(in honor of the birthday of my grandson,
Andrew Russell Kaplan),*

Fran Givertz

(in honor of my family and friends),

Miriam Goldberger,

Mickey Gordon

(in honor of my grandchildren),

Bobbie Levin,

Esther Manewith

(in honor of our grandchildren),

Dori Marks, Ada Rabinowitz and Judi Stein

Our Sisterhood is an affiliate of



Membership Update!

by Roz Cherry - Membership V.P.

We are now in the midst of our membership campaign! Thank you to all of you who have renewed your membership and have also encouraged your friends and neighbors to join! We are so happy to have so many new members. We look forward to seeing you at our wonderful cultural, musical and educational events. Please continue to introduce others to our Sisterhood. Membership dues are \$36, and a check can be dropped off or mailed to the synagogue.

Questions about membership? Please contact me at 847-975-3823 or rosalynrcher@icloud.com.

**A BIG WELCOME to our new
Sisterhood Members:
Eleanor Bernstein, Rosalyn Harris
and Beverly Silverman**

TODAH RABAH • תודה רבה • THANK YOU

• Thanks to all who have made donations in support of our Sisterhood programming!

Good and Welfare...

- **Refuah Shlema** to Gloriann Levy and Renée Repkin.
- **Mazel Tov** to Esther Manewith on the birth of her great-granddaughter, Isabelle Castner.
- **Condolences** to the family of Goldie Brandhandler.
- **Condolences** to Bette Blumenthal on the passing of her brother-in-law, Henry Eaton.

DATES TO REMEMBER...

by Judy Arkin - Programming V.P.

Wednesday, January 4th at 1:00 p.m.

**Notable Ukrainian Jews Who
Influenced Our World –
by Leah Polin (ZOOM only)**

Wednesday, February 1st at 1:00 p.m.

**Jews of Cuba –
by Helene Herman (ZOOM only)
*see back page for flyer**

Wednesday, February 15th at 10:30 a.m.

**Book Club – (ZOOM only)
“Ticking Clock: Behind the Scenes at
60 Minutes” by Ira Rosen**

EDUCATION CORNER

by Bobbie Levin - Education Committee

Destruction of Our First Temple

On the 10th day of the Hebrew month of Tevet (this year observed on January 3, 2023), we commemorate the Destruction of our First Temple.

In 588BCE the Babylonian King Nebuchadnezzar began the siege of Jerusalem, culminating in 586BCE with the destruction of our first temple, Solomon's Temple. This led to the downfall of the Kingdom of Judah and the Babylonian exile of the Jewish people.

This is commemorated in Judaism as a minor Fast Day, from dawn until nightfall. According to tradition, the fast on the Tenth of Tevet also commemorates other calamities that occurred throughout Jewish history.

The Chief Rabbinate of Israel chose to observe the Tenth of Tevet as a general Kaddish Day to allow relatives of victims of the Holocaust, whose yahrzeits are unknown, to say Kaddish in their memory.

The significance of the Fast is to awaken our hearts toward repentance. Each person is obligated to examine their deeds and repent, leading to good actions and deeds.



*If you have a good idea,
carry it out before it fades.*

WAYS & MEANS

by Judy Frank - Ways & Means V.P.

We had a very successful fundraiser at our December meeting with both our boutique and our raffle.

The women enjoyed shopping with the vendors and especially at our Judaica shop. The raffle prizes (cash) hidden in the menorah candles was a “big hit” and great fun!

Deanna Shoss, our synagogue and Sisterhood member, spoke at our synagogue on November 30th, and afterwards donated copies of her book, written with Jerry Witkovsky **“Where Two Worlds Meet: A Guide to Connecting with Your Teenage Grandchildren.”** Please stop by our gift shop and purchase a copy of the book. They are \$12 each.

I want to remind everyone about our “Leagrams”. It is a wonderful Sisterhood fundraiser in which all members can participate. A Leagram is sent to members with wishes for a Happy Birthday or Happy Anniversary. Your name can be included on each Leagram sent for an annual cost of \$54. Contact Debbie Reich at dr0615@aol.com to be included in the Leagrams.

847-530-4572 or Judy@tcscorp.com

We are looking for volunteers to assist during Koleinu and Shabbat Ruach services. The greeter for the evening would also unplug the coffee pot and wrap/put away the cookies, etc. If you are able to do this, please contact Bill Gerber in the synagogue office at 847-675-4141 or bill@ehnt.org.





TORAH FUND 80th BIRTHDAY

by Rose-Lynn Jaffe – Torah Fund V.P.

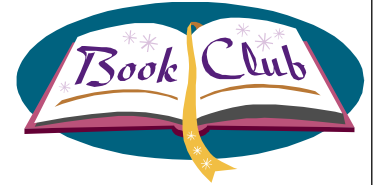
The dedicated philanthropy of the Women's League for Conservative Judaism, Torah Fund, has raised nearly **\$106 million** in its 80 years. Over these years, our donors have had an important role in the perpetuity of Conservative Judaism. More than 35 years ago, a change in the Conservative Movement allowed women to become Rabbis and Cantors and so lead synagogues and other Jewish organizations.

Our Sisterhood is a proud member of the Women's League for Conservative Judaism. Your donations to Torah Fund have supported scholarships and programming at *The Jewish Theological Seminary (NY)*, *Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies (LA)*, *Schechter Institutes of Jewish Studies (Jerusalem)*, *Seminario Rabbinico Latinoamericano (Buenos Aires, Argentina)* and *Zacharias Frankel College (Potsdam, Germany)*.

Our 2022-2023 theme **Chazak v'Ematz**, be Strong and Courageous, celebrates our 80th anniversary of ever-increasing strength of Torah Fund. With your help and donations, we will continue to grow – from strength to strength.

**Our next *Sisterhood* Book Club will meet Wednesday, February 15th
at 10:30 a.m. on ZOOM to discuss**

***"Ticking Clock: Behind the Scenes
at 60 Minutes"***
by Ira Rosen



Based on decades of access and experience, producer Ira Rosen takes readers behind closed doors to offer an incisive look at the show that invented TV investigative journalism, *60 Minutes*. Written with an eye for colorful detail, Rosen writes about his years as Mike Wallace's top producer. Rosen later became the senior producer of ABC's *Primetime Live* and *20/20*. He has won 24 Emmy awards as well as two Peabody Awards, for excellence in quality storytelling. Telling the stories of the famous, from Tom Brady to Hillary Clinton, and the infamous including corrupt politicians and mobster John Gotti Jr., from Israel to Pakistan and beyond, Rosen has been a part of the interviews with newsmakers and policy shapers from around the world. His investigations into wrongly imprisoned people, shoddy conditions at a Virginia VA hospital and the plight of refugees, had the capacity to right some of the wrongs of society. As the child of a Holocaust survivor, Rosen believed the long hours, frequent verbal abuse and pressure were worth it because journalism provided him with the opportunity to expose injustices. At times humorous, but always highly entertaining, this revealing portrait of one of American television's most famous and successful news shows is sure to be an interesting read.

Carol Gottlieb and Dolly Zavell – Book Club Chairs

JCFS Holiday Winter Gift Drive

by Julie Weill - Social Action V.P.

Thank you to all the Sisterhood members who participated in the JCFS Holiday Winter Gift Drive this year! Our Sisterhood and religious school families raised over \$2,000 to fulfill the Wish Lists of 30 children who are JCFS clients throughout the Chicago area.

Thank you to Jamie Pawlan for helping to lead the project and to Nina Summers, Bina Rubinson, Michelle Mantel and Miriam Davidson for working with the religious school families to raise the funds and purchase the gifts, including Legos, wooden puzzles, headphones, stuffed animals, origami art sets, and more for children ages 3-18. Thank you for helping to bring a bright Hanukkah to so many who deserve it.
