The Ezra-Habonim, Niles Township Jewish Congregation

SISTERHOOD CORNER—September, 2015

Evelyn Lowenthal, Sisterhood President       Judy Arkin, Editor (kjarkin99@comcast.net)

From the President’s Desk...

As August slips quickly by, we are now in the Hebrew month of Elul, a time when we are asked to reflect on our actions and attitudes and resolve to correct our shortcomings. Sisterhood is in the process of putting together a terrific group of luncheons, book reviews, Rosh Chodesh programs and more—and we hope you will plan to join us for our year of fun, friendship and learning.

Our Opening Luncheon is just around the corner on Wednesday, September 2nd and includes a Fashion Show from Vibrato Boutique of Wilmette and Glenview. On October 7th, our luncheon program will feature June Sochen speaking on U.S./Israel relations. Also on our event calendar are a Holiday Boutique, Chanukah Latke Luncheon, a Rosh Chodesh brunch, Games Day!, Women’s Seder and a Torah Fund event.

The High Holidays are now less than a month away and we usher in the season with Selichot services on Saturday evening—September 5th and end the entire season with Simchat Torah on Wednesday—October 6th.....and with this in mind, I want to take this opportunity to wish one a healthy, happy New Year!

B'Shalom! Evelyn Lowenthal

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 Marcy Feinberg and Judy Klowden.
  If you have news to share, contact Judy Arkin at kjarkin99@comcast.net.
- Sisterhood donation cards are 8/$10 and the Chai cards are 6/$18. The cards are available in the synagogue office.
- Check out our GIFT SHOP cases for new honey dishes, hostess gifts, mezuzahs and kosher parchments...New items are coming soon! Call Evie Lowenthal at (847)673-2505 for more information.
- The 2015-2016 Women’s League CALENDAR DATEBOOKS are here! Just $10—contact Evie Lowenthal or pick one up in the synagogue office.

Welcome...

to our new Sisterhood Members!
Rochelle Adler       Lillian Cohen
Bonnie Feinberg      Ronia Gross
Lillian Lang
Laurie Wasserman
Grace Weinstein

BOOK CLUB TO DISCUSS

“The Luminous Heart of Jonah S.”
by Gina Nahai
The next meeting of the Sisterhood Book Club will be on Wednesday, October 14th at 10:30 a.m. at the synagogue.

Lyrical, shrewd and daring novelist Gina Nahai writes with acute emotional and nearly anthropological perception, laser-wit, and deep compassion. With touches of magic realism, extraordinary characters, and a spiraling, multigenerational plot involving fraud, a murder mystery, epic suffering, heroic generosity, women’s struggle for freedom, and the clash between East and West, Nahai’s mythic, tragic, often beautiful immigrant family saga illuminates timeless questions of prejudice, trauma, inheritance, loyalty, and love.

Please join us for a lively discussion!
Refreshments will be served.
RSVP to one of our Book Club Chairs: Dorothy Lipstadt  (847)673-3525
Elaine Lampert     (847)537-1240
Judith-Rae Ross    (847)673-7728

Next up...
“Thirteen Days in September”
by Lawrence Wright
on November 11th
THE HIGH HOLIDAYS...AND YOU
by Judith-Rae Ross

They're coming...and I don't mean the British. They're here already on Channel 11 every Saturday night. I'm writing about Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur and Simchat Torah. How should we prepare for them?

Two Jewish traditions come to mind—the ritual and the culinary. But the rituals are so numerous that I can't combine them into this article without it looking like the written version of speaking in tongues, and the culinary tradition doesn't require an article. You're already ordering honey, buying apples or selecting plums and buying yeast.

Let's look at two other Jewish traditions—the communal and the personal. During the month of Av, the Jewish community collectively mourns its losses: the destruction of the 1st and 2nd Temples; the destruction of the Jewish State which resulted in the Diaspora; and all the mass-murders and pogroms that followed; let’s not forget the Holocaust.

But mourning and reflection continues during Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. G-d judges us and imposes our fate for the coming year—a sobering thought. Only prayer and improved conduct allay the G-d’s harsher judgements. But, the High Holidays end on a joyous note, Simchat Torah. The Jewish Community celebrates with song, dance and lots of candy. Whew...on to Hanukkah!

But what of the Judaism of the personal? How do we prepare personally for the High Holidays? Here are some suggestions:

- Use the months of Av and Elul to note the things and relationships that went well, and also note those that could have been better.
- Congratulate yourselves on the jobs well done, but ask yourself what could have been done to make the others successful.
- If no answer comes, pray for guidance.
- If answers come, pray for the strength to implement them.

Don’t be too hard on yourself—life’s hard enough already. Here’s to enlightening months of Av and Elul. Here’s to you!

Good and Welfare...

- Mazel Tov to Ricki Herling on the birth of her granddaughter—Violet Herling
- Mazel Tov to Joanne Stein on the Bar Mitzvah of her grandson—Jonah Stein
- Mazel Tov to Abby Gurevitz on the Bar Mitzvah of her grandson—Brett Spencer Max
- Mazel Tov to Barbara Wax on the Bar Mitzvah of her grandson—Heath Yatvin

OUR DISTINGUISHED JEWISH WOMEN—PAST AND PRESENT:
Josephine Sarah Earp
by Joanne Stein

Josephine Sarah Marcus was a very different kind of Jewish girl. She craved excitement and adventure and she certainly found both.

She was born in New York around 1860 to a middle-class Jewish merchant family. Her parents moved to San Francisco with their three young daughters and it was there that Josephine grew up.

From the first time she saw a play, she knew what she wanted to do with her life. She joined a traveling stage troupe that performed in many California cities with the final engagement in Tombstone, Arizona. There she met Johnny Behan, the sheriff of Cochise County. They became engaged and John traveled to San Francisco to meet her family.

When the couple returned to Tombstone, the romance had cooled. The beautiful 19-year-old Josephine was introduced to Wyatt Earp, the famous frontier hero. Wyatt was married but once he met Josephine, their relationship took fire.

The famous gunfight at the O.K. Corral took place in October 1881. Two of Wyatt’s brothers were wounded, as was Wyatt’s friend Doc Holliday. There was much speculation as to what precipitated the shootout. Wyatt was brought to trial but was finally vindicated. Josephine returned to San Francisco to wait for Wyatt and he joined her there after the trial.

There is no record of a marriage but the couple lived together for the next 48 years. They traveled all over the western United States, never staying in one place for more than a few years. During a three-year stay in Alaska, their prospecting enabled them to make enough money to finally settle down near Los Angeles.

Wyatt made many friends in the fledgling movie colony. When he died in 1929, the movie cowboy Tom Mix was one of the pallbearers at his funeral.

Josephine lived until 1944 and spent her time writing her memoirs. She and Wyatt are buried together under one tombstone in a section of the Jewish Hills of Eternity Cemetery in Colma, California.