



Kol Rinah *The Voice*

Kol Rinah welcomes everyone. This means YOU! Kol Rinah is a dynamic and forward-looking congregation where all generations come together to experience Judaism in innovative ways. **Our mission** is to create a welcoming community that embraces Torah and meaningful worship, lifelong learning, music, Israel and Tikkun Olam, guided by the tenets of Conservative Judaism. **We embrace** a diversity of Jews and Jewish families, including Jews by choice and Jews by birth, Jews of all hues, Jewish singles, couples, and families, interfaith households, LGBTQ Jews, Jews of all abilities and disabilities, the Jew-curious, and more! If there is anything we can do to make you more welcome or to accommodate your needs, please let us know.

Food, Dancing & Fun at our Israel Beit Cafe



Mazal Tov!

July Birthdays

Caleb Arnow, Karen Aroesty, Jaron Asher, Alex Befeler, Henry Berger, Bernice Brandmeyer, Jeremy Buhler, Bonnie Cerulo, Courtney Cerulo, Adin Cooke, Joseph Cooke, Matthew Cooke, Grace Cooperstein, David Cort, Saul Dien, Beatrice Engel, Carolyn Epstein, Ronald Fagerstrom, Alice Fasman, Rabbi Mark Fasman, Bernard Feldman, Arlene Fox, Lisa Gellman, Michal Goldstein, Patricia Herzog, Beatrice Hollander, Deborah Israeli, Myron Jacobs, Cindy Kalachek, Alexander Karabell, Harold Karabell, Charlene Kass, Louise Kaufman-Yavitz, Jordan Kodner, Oliver Kodner, Paul Kodner, Robert Kopitsky, Julie Leeds, Esther Claire Lega, Joshua Levine, Sylvia Levinson, Elsie Levy, Joseph Levy, Noah Levy, Sarah Levy, Rachel Miller, Jerome Nuell, Joyce Olshan, Bernard Pinken, Jonathan Root, Jack Rosman, Beth Rubin, Charles Sandroff, Caleb Scherer, Josh Shimony, Stanley Shmuger, Matthew Shoykhet, Rebekah Simmons, Alvin Siwak, Marcia Sokol-Anderson, Marsha Soshnik, Bonnie Templeton, Vernon Vonderheydt, Laura Weinstock

July Anniversaries

James Bashkin & Shelley Shray
Adam & Lori Brok
David Geller & Nira Asher Geller
Monroe & Cindy Ginsburg
Allen & Nancye Gliner
Robert & Diane Kopitsky
Phil & Bonnie Levens
Howard & Judith Pearlstone
Jonathan Root & Deborah Zimmerman
Eric & Lisa Sheldon
Alvin & Nancy Siwak
David & Marsha Soshnik

August Birthdays

Marc Alper, Denis Altman, Ruth Altman, Myron Applebaum, Lillian Befeler, Irene Belsky, Jacqueline Berliner, Sage Bernstein, Benita Boxerman, Lauren Buchsbaum, Lauren Cohen, Stanford Cohen, Michael Drake, Herbert Eissman, Loren Ettinger,

Rita Fineberg, Barbara Frommer, Andrew Gold, Marvin Goldford, Edith Goldman, Marcia Goldsmith, Michael Goldstein, Shayna Gordon, Lawrence Goodman, Mimi Graff, Michael Greenfield, Rachel Guller, Ruth Hartstein, Stuart Hoffman, Daniel Hudson, Maxine Kalina, Stanley Levy, Joan Meres, Marla Myers, Marshall Myers, Noemi Neidorff, Bob Olshan, Frances Oppenheim, Thomas Platnico, Mitchell Podolsky, Yael Portman, Zachary Praiss, Dennis Rainey, Beverly Rehfeld, Jeffrey Rose, Rose Rosen, Sandra Rosenberg, Alfred Rosenfeld, Hannah Rosenthal, Geoff Rutledge, Hope Shimony, Eliot Simon, Roger Siwak, Claire Spector, Rae Ellen Tash, Marc Tenzer, Donna Tepper, Alyson Wolf, Lonnie Zwibelman

August Anniversaries

Eli & Stacy Abeles
Joel & Susan Allen
Stanley & Judy Allen
Jaron & Jennifer Asher
Steven & Marsha Birenbaum
Gerald & Marion Cohen
Herbert & Flora Eissman
Loren & Julie Ettinger
Bernard & Marjorie Feldman
Herbert & Shirley Fredman
Stan & Simmie Gellman
Robert & Carol Glick
Joel Goldstein & Maxine Lipeles Goldstein
Sheldon & Livia Kessler
Marc Levin & Deborah Rubin
Douglas & Marilyn Miller
Phillip & Sima Needleman
Myron & Vickie Parker
Omri & Juliane Praiss
Dennis & Laura Rainey
Mitchell & Janice Shenker
Donald & Betty Siegel
Josh & Becky Shimony
Scott Slarskey & Tracy Nathan
Gershon & Patsy Spector
Garry & Bonnie Vickar
Jeremiah & Laura Weinstock
Andy & Iva Youkillis
Meir & Rachel Zimand

News & Notables

Mazal Tov to Marvin & Muriel Beckerman on receiving their National Council of Jewish Women Community Service award this past May.

Congratulations to Darien Arnstein who will begin her second year as President of NCJW.

Mazal Tov also to Stephanie Berk, on the successful launch of the new *St. Louis Jewish Parents* monthly magazine. Yashar Koach to her and her staff. You can find copies in our lobby.

Thank You

Many thanks from Noah and Tammy Arnow to everyone who contributed to the Kol Rinah Women's Social Group in honor of their anniversary and Tammy's birthday.



Condolences to the Families Of

Erwin Alpern
Louis Corson
Elaine Gollub
Malcolm Kessler
Ethel (Pat) Leve
Iris Levitt
Gary Mozenter
Barry Pessin
Barbara Platzer
Henry Rosen
Oded Shamir
Florence Simon

Upcoming Events

Visit kolrinahstl.org or call the office for full event information

- ☆ July 4 - Fourth of July Shabbat, come dressed patriotically for a special Shabbat.
- ☆ July 11 - Thank You Shabbat to Rabbi Mark and Alice Fasman
- ☆ July 26 - Tisha B'Av, fast and services
- ☆ October 10 - Sisterhood Lunch & Learn - Human Trafficking
- ☆ November 6-8 - Family Retreat



Kol Rinah Leadership

Mitch Shenker *President*
 Patricia Cohen *Chairman of the Board*
 Karen Aroesty, David Cooperstein,
 Debbie Igielnik, Randi Mozerter,
 Karen Rader, Sherri Sadon
Vice Presidents
 Jeremy Buhler *Secretary*
 Lisa Gellman *Treasurer*

Board - Term Ending 2015

Monroe Ginsburg, Beth Levy, Marvin
 Marcus, Dan Rosenthal, Debbie Rubin,
 Eric Sheldon, Aaron Vickar, Jeff Wax

Board - Term Ending 2016

Stephanie Berk, Gina Bernstein, Susan
 Cort, Dana Emmenegger, Esti Goldman,
 Michael Greenfield, Mindy Horwitz, Jim
 Singman

Board - Term Ending 2017

Jaron Asher, Marcia Sokol Anderson,
 Richard Gavatin, Tony Granillo, Elisa
 Israel, Scott Kaar, Bill Solomon, Debbie
 Zimmerman

Ritual and Education

Noah Arnow *Rabbi*
 Mark Fasman *Rabbi Emeritus*
 Mordecai Miller *Rabbi Emeritus*
 Benson Skoff zt"l *Rabbi Emeritus*
 Marvin Lerner,
 Jonathan Belsky *Ba'alei Koreh*
 Marty Schaeffer *Early Childhood Center*
Director
 Paula Hertel *Religious Education Director*
 Cantor Patty Kaplan *B'nai Mitzvah Tutor*

Auxiliary Groups

Jessica Wax *DorWays Family Program*
Coordinator
 Bob Olshan *Men's Club President*
 Micki Kingsley *Sisterhood President*
 Marilyn Dien *Women's Social Group*

Kol Rinah Office Staff

David Weber *Synagogue Administrator*
 Nancy Greene *Executive Assistant*
 Meir Zimand *Operations/Facilities*
 Tasha Kaminsky *Director of Programing*

Committee Chairs

Richard Gavatin *Adult Ed*
 Barbara Bianco *Chesed*
 Jaron Asher, Gary Kodner
Communications

Richard Gavatin, Michael Greenfield
Constitution & Bylaws

Steve Rosenblum *Development*

Jessica Wax *DorWays*

Aaron Vickar *ECC*

Sue Albert, Dan Rosenthal *Facilities*

Lisa Gellman *Finance*

Sara Myers *Halls & Catering*

Esti Goldman-Gurvis, Bob Olshan *Israel*

Linda Makler, Monroe Ginsburg
Membership

Sandy Boxerman, Debbie Igielnik
Personnel

Marvin Marcus, Jeremy Buhler *Ritual*

Mike Levine *Strategic Planning*

Cindy Kalachek *KRRS*

Sherri Frank Weintrop *USY*

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50% OFF
most items
 through September 2015

Kol Rinah Sisterhood Gift Shop

*Sale excludes books, Kosher
 mezuzot scrolls and tallitot*

Call **314.727.1747**
 to arrange a time.



**Visit our Kol Rinah
 Facebook page!**

www.facebook.com/KolRinahSTL

- ☆ You can post your favorite KR event photos
- ☆ Connect with other Kol Rinah members
- ☆ See upcoming events

Want to learn how?

Call the office to get in on a group training session with **Tasha** 314.727.1747.

Newsletter designed by Tovah Enger



A Message from Rabbi Arnow

Rabbi Noah Arnow

RabbiArnow@kolrinahstl.org

Renewing the High Holidays

I am so excited for High Holidays at Kol Rinah this year! Kol Rinah will be the place to be this High Holiday season. And by the end of this article, you'll understand why!

High Holiday Leadership

First of all, as we bid a very bittersweet farewell to my friend and mentor, Rabbi Mark Fasman, I am excited to announce that Rabbi Micah Buck-Yael and Rabbi Tracy Nathan will be joining me on the bima this year. Again, I'll be doing much of the davening, or "singing," and Rabbi Buck-Yael, Rabbi Nathan and I will be sharing the "rabbi-ing" responsibilities. All three of us will be giving sermons, teaching and speaking over the course of the holidays.

Rabbi Buck-Yael, a member of our community for many years now, was ordained a year ago by the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York, and has been working this year as a Community Chaplain for Jewish Family & Children's Service in St. Louis. Rabbi Nathan teaches at the Saul Mirowitz Jewish Community School and tutors our upcoming b'nai mitzvah students here at Kol Rinah. She will also begin serving as a Community Chaplain with Jewish Family & Children's Services this summer. Prior to moving to St. Louis, she served as Rabbi of Temple Beth Israel in Waltham, MA.

We want the High Holidays this year to be uplifting, emotionally powerful, community-building, and crisp, with diverse options and multiple entry points, and to inaugurate our exploration of the theme of community. To that end, we'll be introducing some innovations in the sanctuary service, and we'll be having many engaging experiences that will be parallel and in addition to the sanctuary service over the course of the holidays. As usual, we'll have a full complement of excellent, thoughtful programming for kids of all ages, from tots to teens. Much of the focus of the innovations and teaching will center around the idea of community.

No Tickets Necessary

There is one other big change afoot: we're expecting conversations like the following in the weeks leading up to Rosh Hashanah:

"Shalom, Kol Rinah, this is Nancy¹. How can I help you?"

"Hi Nancy, it's [insert name]. I'm just calling because I haven't received my High Holiday tickets yet."

Why are we anticipating these phone calls? It's not because we will be withholding anyone's tickets. On the contrary! Kol Rinah is experimenting with something new this High Holiday season—no tickets! Anyone who wants to join us for the High Holidays can come, member, or non-member. You won't need to show a ticket to

gain entrance. And so we won't be sending tickets to you—or anyone.

We will be asking for RSVP's so that we can prepare appropriately for attendees and have nametags prepared for everyone who tells us they're coming. We'll require RSVP's for children so we can plan for them appropriately. And for non-members, we'll suggest a recommended donation of \$180. Seating will be open, just as it has been in past years.

Why are we engaging in this experiment? It's very simple. We believe that Kol Rinah should be about opening doors rather than guarding them, about welcoming everyone rather than being "members only." Not only is this mindset more appropriate to the realities of 21st century life, but it's the Jewish way to be, as the prophet Isaiah (and our Scholar-in-Residence this past February Rabbi Brad Artson) proclaims, "My House shall be called a house of prayer for all people" (Is. 56:7).

It might feel a bit more crowded this year than in the past, but the fact is, we had a lot of empty seats last year. Practically speaking, we are, of course, concerned with security, and we will be communicating with you in the coming weeks about how we'll be handling security a little differently this year.

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When you talk to your friends and your family about Kol Rinah in the weeks leading up to the High Holidays, I hope you will share my excitement and anticipation for the Days of Awe this year—because they are going to be a powerful, inspiring, and joyful experience. Be there, and share your voice!

¹ Nancy Greene, Kol Rinah's wonderful
Executive Assistant

Membership Committee

Linda Makler, Monroe Ginsburg

golchamp@aol.com

monroegdmd@gmail.com

The latest news from the Membership Committee is that Mary Ellen (Mem) Movshin has just joined Kol Rinah! Please give her a big Kol Rinah welcome and Shalom when you see her at services and/or special events.

Jewish Food Pantry July List

1. Peanut Butter
2. Kosher Food
3. Canned Vegetables
4. Canned Beef/Chili/Pasta with Meat
5. Canned Tuna Fish and Canned Salmon
6. Healthy Cereal
7. Shampoo, Toothpaste and Baby Diapers

**For more info, contact Louise
Levine 636.227.1259.**

Youth Programs

Tasha Kaminsky

tasha@kolrinahstl.org



We are so proud of our graduating KRSTL seniors & outgoing board!

Much gratitude to the hard work of our outgoing board and graduating seniors: Alex Zvibleman, Sam Rubin, Hannah Cooke, Dovran Olshan, Hera Scher-Zagier, Seth Cohen, Jake Kimberg, and Jacques Fehr. We can't wait to see all the great things you accomplish!

Congratulations to our incoming KRSTL USY 2015-2016 board!

President **Maddie Lapp**

*Executive Vice President & Israel
Affairs Vice President* **Harry Rubin**

*Social Action/Tikkun Olam Vice
President* **Pardes Lyons-Warren**

Communications Vice President
Amarys Evans

Inclusion Vice President
Joey Cooke

We are looking forward to a great year of programming and excellence. Our board is committed to being welcoming, kind, and living our Jewish values. KRSTL intends to continue to work hard at repairing the world and making sure Kol Rinah is a fun and safe space for teens.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, or if you would like to help strengthen our youth department, please contact Tasha, tasha@kolrinahstl.org.

Sisterhood

Micki Kingsley

michele_kingsley@yahoo.com

It's Honey Time again. You still have until July 13 to order your kosher Rosh Hashanah honey jars and take advantage of free shipping. For more information, see the ad, or call the office. Only you can help us make this the sweetest year ever.

Thanks to the following members for sponsoring Sisterhood kiddushes and luncheons recently: **Janice & Mitch Shenker** in honor of Mitch's 50th anniversary of his bar mitzvah; the **Samuel Frank Chesed Fund** in honor of Barbara Bianco, the Chesed Fund chairman, and all their amazing volunteers; the **Raffelsons** in honor of the bar mitzvahs of Michael & Wesley; **Lauren Schuver & Andrew Gold** in honor of their daughter Jenna's bat mitzvah; the **family of Irene Belsky** in honor of her birthday; and **Ralph Graff**, to commemorate the 70th anniversary of his bar mitzvah.

Thank you to the **Mellman Family** group for hosting their annual meeting here at Kol Rinah with a Sisterhood luncheon.

If you are thinking about celebrating a simcha with a Sisterhood Kiddush, please call Sue Propper 314.395.1349 or suemeryl@charter.net. We really appreciate the business.

Betty Siegel works very hard enlisting and scheduling volunteers to help on Saturday mornings with regular kiddushes. Thank you Betty and to the ladies who have been working in the kitchen: Nira Asher-Geller, Barbara Bahn, Carol Battle, Benita Boxerman,

Marion Cohen, Marilyn Dien, Joyce Eisenberg, Marjorie Feldman, Edie Goldman, Rhoda Grimsky, Marian Katz, Jean Marx, Joyce Olshan, Phyllis Warner and Sharon Weintraub. And thank you to **Aleene Zawada** who has been shopping for these kiddushes.

We need your help, call the office 314.727.1747. Many hands make quick work.

Save the Date - Sunday, October 25 Torah Fund Campaign

Irene Belsky made sure we reached our goal in support of the Jewish Theological Seminaries. Since we had to cancel our Torah Fund program in March, we are planning a "Kick-off 2016" Torah Fund event. To those of you who donated to this year's campaign, we thank you, the Seminaries thank you, and all the students attending these institutions thank you.

Make the most of every day.

L'Shanah Tovah! Sisterhood Rosh Hashanah



Honey Fund Raiser



Wish someone a sweet and happy New Year with an 8 oz. gift jar of kosher clover honey. (OU on label)



Cost is only \$11.00 per jar, which includes shipping to anywhere in the U.S.A.*

Your purchase helps our Kol Rinah Sisterhood continue to strengthen programs that serve our Kol Rinah community.

To order, complete the form at **honeyfromtheheart.org/krs**

For more information:

Sue Propper-314.395.1349

Cindy Ginsburg - 314.963.0607

*If you order after July 13, 2015, a shipping fee will be added: \$4 in USA, \$6 for Canada; \$15 for other countries

Holy Rollers

Steven Birenbaum

steven.birenbaum@yahoo.com

Rabbi Emeritus Mark Fasman Restores a Torah in Time

What to do when we found breaks in letters of an otherwise kosher torah? Especially when Camp Sabra planned to pick up the torah in a week, to use over the summer? Fortunately, Rabbi Emeritus Mark Fasman was available to use his sofer training to restore about 15 letters, in time for the loan.



Sisterhood Lunch & Learn

Human Trafficking

Saturday, October 10 (after
Kiddush) - Sara Myers Room 106

Program free to all

Contact Marjorie Feldman for more
information Maf55@email.com

Haftarah with Howard

6:30 - 7:30pm every Tuesday
(barring holidays)

Sara Myers Room 106

- ☆ Everyone welcome, from
"newbies" to veterans
- ☆ There will be a Haftarah
chanting at the conclusion of
the class.
- ☆ There is NO COST for
materials or supplies!

Contact Howard Belsky for
questions: 314.546.0810 or
howardbelsky@gmail.com

A Kol Rinah Family Retreat!

Fun, relaxed, inspiring
family retreat for families
with children of ALL ages

November 6-8

Trout Lodge, Potosi, MO

- ☆ Friday afternoon through
Sunday morning
- ☆ 1 1/2 hours away
- ☆ Affordably priced with
scholarships available

**Watch for more details
coming soon!**

For more information or to
join the retreat team, please
contact Jessica Wax,
jessica@kolrinahstl.org

Make Money for Kol Rinah with Schnucks eScrip

Did you know in one easy
step you can personally raise
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extra money? Every time you
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Contact Tasha Kaminsky
in the office for your card!
314.727.1747

tasha@kolrinahstl.org



Kol Rinah Religious School

Paula Hertel

phertel@kolrinahstl.org

Kol Rinah Religious School Ends On A Happy Note!

Our last Sunday of the 2014-2015 school year ended with students, their families and staff coming together for "Sunday Sundaes" in the Mirowitz Auditorium where everyone got to create their own brownie/ice cream treat! Then the Talent Show closed out the morning with pianists: Sam Bernstein, Toby, Hannah and Naomi Zaidman; Karen Huss and rescue dog "Marty"; singing with Grace Cooperstein; gymnastic display by Sage Bernstein and Cha-Cha Rubin; and finally, piano, guitar and harmonica trio with "Madrachim" Ben Portner, Sam Forman and Jared Skoff. The audience showed their appreciation for the fun entertainment with applause and cheers!

This past year, students and staff collected \$557.18 of tzedakah. After learning about a number of organizations with their teachers, the following agencies were chosen by the Pre-K/K, First, Second and Third/Fourth classes to receive these monies:

1. Amutat Yishai or Yishai's

Foundation: a local non-profit helping Israeli families who've come to St. Louis for SDR surgery that will enable their kids with Cerebral Palsy to walk. The goal is to provide emotional, spiritual and financial help to these families while they are here. Insurance often does not cover this surgery.

2. DCAWS Animal Shelter in Salem, Missouri, Dent County: a "no kill" shelter

3. The Susan G. Komen Foundation, St. Louis

4. Camp Rainbow: provides various camping experiences throughout the year for children with cancer or blood-related diseases.

5. The Humane Society of St. Louis

6. CHAI - Concern for Helping Animals in Israel

7. Yad LaKashish: a non-profit in Israel, empowering and supporting nearly 300 elderly Jerusalem residents on a daily basis.

In May, our students from PreK/K through 2nd grade, with their parents and staff were treated to a great learning experience at Stemme Farm in Chesterfield (photos on back cover). Rabbi Arnow accompanied us and helped to link this field trip to the harvest holiday of Shavuot. To thank Warren Stemme for his gracious hospitality, KRRS is sending a donation in his honor to ALOT - the agricultural leadership group that Warren supports.

You can find out about ALOT at www.missourialot.org/. There are plans to take another group in the Fall, for the harvest holiday of Sukkot!

It was a bittersweet conclusion to a great year because we had to say good-byes to staff members as they moved on to other opportunities. We will miss Sam Forman, Emma Rehfeld, Ellie Scott, Jared Skoff, Jacques Fehr and Sam Rubin. They added to the teamwork of KRRS.

As this is being written, the school calendar is being finalized. **Sunday, August 30, 2015 - Religious School Open House for all students and families.** Wednesday, September 2, 2015 is the first class. You can find the calendar online soon.

Looking forward to the 2015-2016 KRRS year!

B'Shalom,

Paula Hertel, Director

Kol Rinah Staff News

As of the beginning of June, Tasha Kaminsky became Kol Rinah's Director of Programming. She will focus on improving communications, promoting engagement, developing programs, helping our members have their voices be heard and representing Kol Rinah outside of the building at various events.

Though we are in the process of hiring a youth advisor, Tasha will continue to oversee the youth department and work in Kol Rinah Religious School.

If you have any questions about this transition, please don't hesitate to contact us or Tasha (tasha@kolrinahstl.org).

L'shalom, *Mitch Shenker*, President & *Rabbi Noah Arnow*

Kol Rinah Men's Club Rabbi Emeritus Israel Youth Fund

Kol Rinah Men's Club proudly offers a fund assisting the youth of Kol Rinah (5th Grade thru College) to participate in meaningful Israel Experiences, and with the intent of sharing their experiences within the congregation (inspired by Rabbi Benson Skoff of Blessed Memory, and honors all of our past Rabbi's).

"The two most important events of the past century affecting the Jewish world are the Shoah and the establishment of the State of Israel. Kol Rinah should be an institution through which its members engage seriously with the most important development in Jewish history in the past 1,944 years."

Rabbi Mark Fasman

We encourage everyone at Kol Rinah to support this fund.

Here are our first Kol Rinah Israel Youth Fund Recipients.

Sam Rubin (2014)

Last summer I went on USY Eastern Europe/Israel Pilgrimage. In Europe we traveled through the Czech Republic, Germany, and Poland, visiting sites of Jewish history and of the Shoah... I learned so much about the magnitude of the disaster that the Holocaust was.

My time in Israel was amazing! Being in Israel gave me a great opportunity to learn about what is really happening there. I had four amazing weeks exploring Israel and learning about the

Jewish history and culture of the land, both old and modern.

Mital Lyons-Warren (2014)

I had the amazing opportunity to go to Israel for the second time with Birthright Israel Outdoors in August 2014. My trip was focused on seeing Israel through the eyes of nature and the beauty the land has to offer. It was a fascinating trip with many breath taking views. My favorite part of my trip was spending the ten days with six fabulous Israelis and getting to know them. We have all stayed in touch and plan on being lifelong friends.

Harry Rubin (2015)

I chose to do the USY Poland/Israel Pilgrimage for a number of reasons. The trip will consist of one week in Poland and then four weeks in Israel. During the time in Poland, I will be going to Warsaw, Krakow, Lodz, and other Jewish and Holocaust sites. In

Israel, I will be in Jerusalem for about half the time and the other half will be spent traveling around to the Golan Heights, Haifa, Tzfat, Tel Aviv, Eilat, etc... I want to be able to take back new memories, views, and experiences of Poland and Israel to share with my peers and with the congregation.

Alex Zvibleman (2015)

Bar Ilan University is a once in a lifetime opportunity that will allow me to connect with roughly 80 Jewish American teenagers and explore the wonders of the promised land while continuing my education. This program will allow me to strengthen and more boldly define my Jewish identity that will ultimately help shape my personality, morals and voice.

Bob Olshan

President, Kol Rinah Men's Club



Everyone Has A Story

Sima Needleman

Jaron Asher and Jennifer Rogers

Jaron Asher's story begins with his grandparents. His father's parents, Philip and Janet, were born in the United States and lived in New York. Grandpa Philip, who worked in the clothing industry, was, according to Jaron, a "jokester" and lots of fun. Grandma Janet was a redhead and "a character," who taught Jaron to shop in thrift stores. When Grandpa retired, they moved to Florida, where Jaron's family often visited them in the summer.

His maternal grandparents, Avraham and Gita, were originally from Poland but immigrated to Israel, where Jaron's mother, Nira, was born and raised. Over the years, Avraham and Gita visited Jaron's family in St. Louis every 3 or 4 years and stayed with them about six months. Because Avraham and Gita didn't speak English, Jaron and his sister, Ruth, began learning Hebrew at a young age. Jaron remembers that his *Saba* (grandfather) Avraham not only helped him make a pinewood derby car when Jaron was a Cub Scout but he also taught Jaron to play chess and brought *Tefillin* from Israel for Jaron. *Savta* (grandmother) Gita, who was a great cook and a lot of fun, too, taught Jaron some *Yiddish* words and he taught her some English.

Jaron's parents, Arnold (Arnie) and Nira Asher, met in New York City when they were students. Arnie, who grew up in the New York area, came from a family that was not particularly religious, but,

after his Bar Mitzvah, Arnie felt a need to continue studying and learning and began to submerge himself in Judaic studies and became more observant. After going to a special school in New York called a *Mechina*, Arnie enrolled in Yeshiva University in New York where he received his undergraduate degree and then went to graduate school at the Jewish Theological Seminary, where he pursued his rabbinical studies.

While studying at Yeshiva College, Arnold met Nira, who was a student at Stern College for Women (another college in Yeshiva University). They married and moved to St. Louis where Arnie had been hired to be the Assistant Rabbi of B'nai Amoona. Four years later (in 1968), he accepted the Associate Rabbi position at Shaare Zedek; and, when Rabbi Epstein died in 1971, he was appointed Principal Rabbi.

When thinking about his father, many unrelated memories came back to Jaron. One was walking to *shul* with his Dad. Another was that like his own father before him, Arnie loved to sing.

Nira, who grew up in Israel, always wanted to become a doctor but at that time in Israel, few women were accepted into medical school. Therefore, she went to New York, where she enrolled in Stern College. She earned a bachelor's degree in Arts and Pre-Med Sciences but never went to medical school. Years later,



Nira went back to school and earned a second bachelor's degree in math and then a master's degree in Management and Information Systems at UMSL as well as a teaching certificate from Webster University. She was hired by McDonnell Douglas to be a Systems Programmer, and then for many years was employed by Barnes Hospital as an Information Technology Specialist. Jaron added that his mother was always good in math and science, and he has fond memories of the two of them "playing with math a lot" when he was growing up.

Jaron was the youngest of Nira and Arnie's three children. Naomi, Jaron's oldest sister has a developmental disability. When Jaron was asked how he felt about that, he said "When you're a kid, you don't want to be different, and, having Naomi as a sister, I was different. But the three of us also played and fought like any other siblings." Regarding how he feels now, Jaron said he is so proud

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of Naomi who just moved into a new home and had one of the lead roles in a play at the JCC.

Jaron's other sister Ruth (Ruthie) was born two years after Naomi and three years before Jaron. Jaron stated that he always "respected Ruthie a ton," adding "I was an uncle before I was a dad and really enjoyed that identity." Because Ruthie (a social worker) and he (a psychiatrist) are both in the mental health field today, they can talk professionally. Also, "she's an amazing cook, and, all through my life, she's been feeding me," explaining that Ruthie used to be the cook while their mother was going to school. Presently Ruth often invites her siblings to her home for Friday evening dinner or Saturday lunch.

Jaron attended the Epstein Hebrew Academy (EHA) from kindergarten through 9th grade. However, when he was just 9 years old, tragedy struck his family. His father died suddenly of a heart attack. The loss was extraordinarily hard on Jaron and his family, but the members of the congregation were wonderfully supportive and helpful in so many ways. Examples are Stanley Goldstein, who took Jaron to the JCCA on Sundays and Alan Spetner, who bowled with Jaron in a bowling league and gave him assorted jobs in his business. Also the congregation established a college fund for both Ruth and Jaron.

Several years after Arnie died, a neighbor introduced Nira to Dr. David Geller, a pharmacologist at Washington University Medical

School. Nira and David both enjoyed going to the theater and symphony concerts together, and before long they got married.

Meanwhile Jaron's "absolute favorite subject in school was math." Computers played a big role in his education at EHA. He bought an Apple II Plus right after his Bar Mitzvah and learned to program it right away. There were about 20 students in his class and Jaron was friends with all of them. Also, he took piano lessons off-and-on from the time he was in elementary school to the time he was in college.

Because he completed 9th grade at EHA, Jaron entered Clayton High School as a sophomore, and that's when he met Jennifer Rogers, who was also beginning Clayton High in the 10th grade. After 10 years at EHA, Jaron experienced "culture shock" at the high school primarily because he didn't know many people there, but, there was no doubt that Jaron very much liked learning. He especially liked chemistry, physics, English, math and his electronic music class. Jaron stated that his "high school years were a good time in (his) life."

After graduating from Clayton High, Jaron attended Wesleyan University in Middletown, CT, where he changed his major a number of times. He took classes in, among other things, Biology, Physics, Math, and Hebrew literature. The summer after receiving his bachelor's degree in Religious Studies from Wesleyan, Jaron went to Boston to take Chemistry at Northeastern University and Organic Chemistry at Harvard, thereby completing the requirements for medical school. Jaron

worked as an ophthalmic technician for an ophthalmologist in Washington, D.C. for one year and then began Medical School at University of Missouri-Columbia.

In Jaron's third year of medical school he decided to specialize in psychiatry, which he said "was the only branch of medicine that I could even picture myself in." Jaron graduated medical school in 1997 and did his internship and residency at St. Louis University (SLU) Department of Psychiatry. After graduating psychiatry residency, he worked in different psychiatric positions at SLU Hospital, the VA Medical Center, Metropolitan St. Louis Psychiatric Center, and private practice. Eight years ago, Jaron found his niche in integrated healthcare by joining two health centers: Places for People (PfP) and Family Care Health Centers (FCHC). At PfP, an agency for those with severe and persistent mental illness, Jaron was Medical Director for a total of 12 years. During those years PfP added medical care and Jaron played a major role in integrating medical care with psychiatric care. At FCHC, a primary care clinic for the underserved, Jaron is the Chief Behavioral Health Officer. Jaron has grown the behavioral health department from 2 employees to 15. The two health centers, PfP and FCHC, have formed a mutually beneficial partnership during Jaron's tenures there. This year, in March of 2015, Jaron decided to work full-time at Family Care Health Centers.

Jennifer Rogers' story also begins with her grandparents. She feels

Continued on page 12

as if all four of them were wonderful and influential in her life, and she's grateful that she had such a long time with each of them. Both of her mother's parents, August and Esther, were raised on farms. August grew up in rural Missouri and Esther's family farmed in Iowa. Both eventually settled in Omaha, Nebraska. Grandpa August had a green thumb and grew acres of vegetables. He was a quiet, loving, and gentle man. Jennifer adored her Grandma Esther, a woman of many talents. For example, she was a great cook, whose delicious cinnamon rolls are a cherished family recipe. In addition to her culinary skills, Grandma was an artist who painted pictures on porcelain plates and taught Jennifer and her sisters how to paint on tiles. Jennifer also learned to sew and quilt with her grandmother, and she credits Grandma Esther with instilling in her a love of art. Jennifer stated that she really misses her Grandma.

Jennifer's paternal grandparents, Wilbur and Priscilla, also settled in Omaha after a long time spent ranching in western Nebraska. Grammy Priscilla was lots of fun and spoiled her grandchildren. Pa (Grandpa Wilbur) was a geologist, who not only was a professor at the University of Nebraska but also at one time owned a surveying company. Both he and Grammy loved to travel, and sometimes Jennifer's immediate family of five went on trips with them.

Since both sets of grandparents, as well as most of her aunts, uncles and cousins lived in Omaha, Jennifer's family typically went to Omaha to visit

them on all the holidays and for about a week in the summer.

Jennifer's father, John, grew up in Nebraska. He received his MD degree from the University of Nebraska, where he met his future wife Mary, who was a nursing student at that time. John became a hematologist and was hired by the Hematology Department of the Washington University (WU) School of Medicine, where, over the years, he was predominately a professor and researcher. At the same time, Jennifer's mother Mary, who was also raised in Nebraska, was hired by Barnes Hospital as an oncology nurse. Mary was a stay-at-home mother for much of Jennifer's childhood, and was an active room mother, Girl Scout helper, and volunteer at the grade school.

Jennifer is the oldest of John and Mary's three daughters. Her sister Abby came next and Jane completed the family. The family lived in Clayton and all of the girls went through the Clayton School System from kindergarten through high school.

Jennifer described her family as "culturally Christian." Her father was a physician with a strong scientific background and didn't accept religious teachings. Although her family was not observant and rarely, if ever, attended services, Jennifer was baptized in a Presbyterian church.

From the beginning of elementary school, Jennifer loved learning and therefore was a very good student. Although she was a Girl Scout throughout grade school, Jennifer described herself as a shy child and an introvert, who loved to read and

generally preferred to "hang out" with her own friends rather than to be in the spotlight or part of an organized group.

In junior high school, Jennifer loved the classes she was taking, but socializing in 7th and 8th grade wasn't easy. However, in 9th grade, she had a unique experience because of her paternal grandparents, who were friends of a family in Italy. Without assistance from a formal student exchange program, her family arranged for the son of the Italian family to come to St. Louis and for Jennifer to go to Padua, Italy for a year as exchange students. In preparation for her year in Italy, 12-year-old Jennifer took a course in the Italian language at WU with college students! The year in Italy was absolutely wonderful for her. She loved being exposed to the culture, the art, and the history of Italy and Europe.

When she returned to the United States, Jennifer reconnected with the students who were previously her good friends and has remained friends with many of them all her life. One of those friends, Melissa Marshall, has been her best friend since second grade.

Because of her year in Italy, Jennifer entered Clayton High School as a sophomore - - just as Jaron had. The two got to know each other and became friends but didn't date until later.

After Jennifer graduated from high school, she went to Washington University where she says she had a wonderful liberal arts education and

Continued on page 13

graduated with a bachelor's degree in Women's Studies. For a few years, she worked as a waitress in various restaurants and met her ex-husband during that time. Several years after they married, they had a daughter, whom they named Ellen. After her divorce was finalized, Jennifer went back to WU in a dual degree program culminating in an MSW degree in Social Work and an MBA in Business Administration. After graduation, Jennifer worked as a financial analyst for a small company. Next, she was hired by Boeing and really loved her job there, particularly because of her professional and competent team of coworkers. After 4 years, however, Jennifer wanted more time at home and resigned from Boeing. Being at home with her children was very rewarding but wasn't her long-term plan. When she was ready to return to work, she accepted the position of Senior Project Director at the St. Louis Mental Health Board, a position Jennifer still holds today. Jennifer is responsible for managing grants for mental health services to adults and children.

After seeing each other sporadically through the years at the life-cycle events of their mutual friends, Jennifer and Jaron ran into each other twice in rapid succession in Schnucks. They exchanged phone numbers and reestablished their friendship, which eventually led to a courtship. The two were married in 2004 (before Jennifer's conversion to Judaism). They had a very small wedding on a beach in Oregon because it is one of

their favorite destinations. However, after Jennifer went through conversion with Rabbi Fasman, Jaron and Jennifer had a second wedding under the chuppah.

In 2008, their daughter Anna was born and Cecilia arrived on the scene in 2010. Ellen recently graduated Clayton High School and will be attending Lewis and Clark College in the fall. Ellen enjoys art, Japanese culture, her friends, and Netflix. Anna loves animals, science, art, and reading. Cecilia loves playing with her sister and her friends, and has a passion for drawing hearts. She is especially excited about starting kindergarten when Anna starts 2nd grade.

Jaron is currently a member of the Kol Rinah Board as well as the co-chair with Gary Kodner of the Communications Committee. In his spare time, he enjoys walking, spending time with his family, reading non-fiction, and listening to music and podcasts.

Jennifer, who had been active in the (Shaare Zedek – now) Kol Rinah Sisterhood before her younger two children were born, now is involved with the Kol Rinah Religious School. She is also an assistant Girl Scout leader. In her spare time she makes quilts to donate to raise money for Spinal Muscular Atrophy.

Although Jennifer and Jaron come from different backgrounds, they have much in common. Both had grandparents who played a significant role in their lives and had a major influence on each of them. From their parents and grandparents, they learned important lessons as well as important values

that they are now passing on to their own children. Jennifer and Jaron both "love learning," are hard working and have accomplished much in their personal and professional lives. Also, they have built a life together that is based on mutual love, support and respect for one another.

4th of July Shabbat

Join us on the 4th of July for Shabbat services! We will have a fun and patriotic morning complete with an all American Kiddush. Festivities will include davening set to national tunes and a contest for the most patriotic outfit. So wear your red, white, and blue, and bring a flag to wave from the pews.

Are Your Children or Grandchildren Attending Sleep Away Camp?

Kol Rinah would love to send your special camper a little care package. If your child or grandchild is attending sleep away camp this summer please reply to Tasha with the following information:

1. Child's name
2. Camp attending
3. Dates attending
4. Mailing address at camp

Deadline by June 15th

Wishing you and yours a great summer!

July 2015 Calendar

Tammuz / Av 5775

Visit kolrinahstl.org for our full interactive calendars

1
Wed
7am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma'ariv
1pm KR Women's Social Group
Meeting - Sara Myers Rm 106

2
Thu
7am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma'ariv
7pm Executive Committee Mtng - Lib

3
Fri
9am Shacharit
6pm Kabbalat Shabbat
8:12pm Candle Lighting

4
Sat
Fourth of July Shabbat
Parshat Balak
9am Shabbat Service
7:15pm Mincha/Seudah Shelishit/
Ma'ariv
9:17pm Havdalah

5
Sun
Fast 17 of Tammuz
4:01 am Fast begins
8am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma'ariv
9am Communications Mtng - Library
9:07 pm Fast Ends

6
Mon
7am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma'ariv

7
Tue
7am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma'ariv
8am "With Heart and Mind" - Sara
Myers Room 106
6:35pm Haftarah Class By Howard
Belsky - Sara Myers Room106

8
Wed
7am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma'ariv

9
Thu
7am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma'ariv
7pm Kol Rinah Board Meeting

10
Fri
7am Shacharit
6pm Kabbalat Shabbat
8:10pm Candle Lighting

11
Sat
Thank you Fasmans Shabbat
Parshat Pinchas
9am Shabbat Service
7:15pm Mincha/Seudah Shelishit/
Ma'ariv
9:14pm Havdalah

12
Sun
8am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma'ariv
9am Communications Meeting - Lib
9:30am Sisterhood Mtng - Auditorium
10am Men's Club Board Mtng - Lib

13
Mon
7am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma'ariv
7pm Ritual Mtng - Sara Myers Rm 106

14
Tue
7am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma'ariv
8am "With Heart and Mind" - Sara
Myers Room 106
10am Poetry Chavurah - Sara Myers
Room 106
6:35pm Haftarah Class By Howard
Belsky - Sara Myers Room106

15
Wed
7am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma'ariv

16
Thu
7am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma'ariv

17
Fri
Rosh Chodesh Av
6:45am Shacharit
6pm Kabbalat Shabbat
8:06pm Candle Lighting

18
Sat
Parshat Matot-Massei
9am Shabbat Service
12:30pm Toasting Talmud and Torah
7:10pm Mincha/Seudah Shelishit/
Ma'ariv
9:10pm Havdalah

19
Sun
8am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma'ariv
9am Communications Meeting - Lib

20
Mon
7am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma'ariv

21
Tue
7am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma'ariv
8am "With Heart and Mind" - Sara
Myers Room 106
6:35pm Haftarah Class By Howard
Belsky - Sara Myers Room106

22
Wed
7am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma'ariv

23
Thu
7am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma'ariv

24
Fri
7am Shacharit
6pm Kabbalat Shabbat
8:01pm Candle Lighting

25
Sat
Parshat Devarim
9am Shabbat Service
1:00pm Mincha
9:00 pm Ma'ariv and Eicha
8:19 pm Fast begins
9:04pm Havdalah

26
Sun
Fast of Tisha B'Av
8am Shacharit Kinot and learning
6pm Mincha/Ma'ariv
8:54 pm Fast Ends

27
Mon
7am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma'ariv

Calendar continued on page 15



**PLEASE HELP
MAKE A MINYAN**

28
Tue 7am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma'ariv
8am "With Heart and Mind" - Sara
Myers Room 106

6:35pm Haftarah Class By Howard
Belsky - Sara Myers Room 106

29
Wed 7am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma'ariv

30
Thu 7am Shacharit / 6pm Mincha/Ma'ariv

31
Fri 7am Shacharit
6pm Kabbalat Shabbat
7:55pm Candle Lighting

Kol Rinah Family Shabbat A Totally Shabbat Experience!

Totally Tot Shabbat - Ages 0-5

Rhythm n'Ruach - Ages 0-5

MifgaShabbat - Grades 1-5

Will Return in September

Babysitting also available every shabbat 10-12



The Jewish Community
Foundation of St. Louis
www.jewishinstlouis.org/jcf



Kol Rinah
Share Your Voice

Your Dreams. Your Passion. Your Legacy.
You Can Create A Jewish Legacy Today!

- ☐ I have already made provisions to create a Jewish Legacy for BSKI, Shaare Zedek and/or Kol Rinah. (Please let us know)

Fax this form to Kol Rinah Office at 314-727-0080

- ☐ Please contact me about how I can leave a Jewish Legacy to Kol Rinah and/or a community agency.

Name: _____

Contact number: _____

Kol Rinah Event Submission Guidelines

1. The process begins with the event planner (you) reviewing Kol Rinah's "All Calendar" on the Kol Rinah (KR) website to make sure there are no conflicts.

2. Follow the easy instructions on this KR web page: <http://www.kolrinahstl.org/event-request/> or find the link "Event Request" under the KR website Calendar heading on the main menu bar.

What will happen next:

3. Our Rabbi and David Weber will receive the form submission and ask any clarifying questions to vet the event. Generally, the rule will be first come first served, but KR may supersede that rule for the vital interests of the synagogue.

4. Once approved, Meir Zimand will put the event on the calendar which begins the publicity effort. Meir will also notify the event contact and any other KR stakeholders so that program coordination can begin.

Thank you in advance for adhering to this process.

The Communications Committee

☆☆ If you are reserving a Shabbat weekend, contact David Weber in the office and he will direct you to the right person.



Kol Rinah
Share Your Voice

