



# The JSC Newsletter

Newsletter of the Cleveland Jewish Secular Community

[www.jewishsecularcommunity.org](http://www.jewishsecularcommunity.org)

December 2016/5777

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## Upcoming Events

**Sun., Dec. 18** – Board Meeting

**Fri., Dec. 23** – Chanukah/Shabbat Program

**Sun., Dec. 25** – Montefiore Volunteer

## 2016-2017 Shabbat Programs Schedule Announced

Dec. 23: Noah Budin: Songs of Chanukah

Jan. 20: Dennis Sutcliffe: Abba Hillel Silver and the Nazis

Feb. 10: Tu B'Shvat. Brett Jones: The Green Economy

March 10: Purim. G. Malkin: Teaching Kids To Be Capitalists

April 21: Lisa Schattinger: Ohio End of Life Options

May 19: Greg Coleridge: Getting Corporate Money Out of Elections

**You're missing a name tag?** Let Lori Berenson know: 216-381-3323 or [lorib@berenson.net](mailto:lorib@berenson.net)

**Thanks to those of you who have contributed** to the JSC General Fund and the Falendar fund. We now have \$1,486.00 in these funds, which are used to assist victims of devastating acts of nature, such as Hurricane Katrina and the forest fires in California and Israel.

## Chanukah/Shabbat Program Friday, Dec. 23, 2016

**First Unitarian Church**, Fellowship Hall,  
21600 Shaker Blvd. E.

Program: Noah Budin will entertain us with the "Songs of Chanukah."

Meet and mingle at **6:15 pm**  
Shabbat program at **6:45 pm**  
Potluck dinner at **7:00 pm**  
Chanukah Program at **8:00 pm**

**NOTE: We will be using a check in list at all Shabbat programs. Be sure to check in at the bottom of the first set of stairs to Fellowship Hall.** Your RSVP is important to help us plan for food and room set-up. Guests may attend two Shabbat programs at no charge. After that, the guest fee is **\$20** for each Shabbat. The guest fee may be applied towards JSC membership dues. After the first two Shabbats, guests should also bring a side dish or dessert.

**RSVP by Wednesday, Dec. 21** to Lynn Salzbrenner (330-388-9393) or ([lynnsalzbrenner@gmail.com](mailto:lynnsalzbrenner@gmail.com)).

Last names **A-G and M-Z** bring a side dish or salad for 6 (couples please bring enough for 12); **H-L** bring a dessert for 10 (couples please bring enough for 20). Please bring a list of ingredients and pre-cut if possible. The community will provide chicken, challah, wine, drinks, and all serving utensils.

## Community Service

### It's That Time of the Year.

As the year 2016 comes to a close, we are reminded to be thankful for what we have: family, friends and good health. But what about those who are not as fortunate? Here are three opportunities for you to do your part to help others:

### Christmas at Montefiore

Over the years, JSC members have given of their time volunteering at Montefiore. If you have not participated, consider helping in a number of ways: You can be a wheelchair escort transporting residents to a number of activities; you can lead activities such as sing-alongs, bingo, book discussions or current events; you can help assist in the Posh Nosh Café Snack Shop and McCart Gift Shop. Without volunteers to staff them, these important amenities would not be available to residents.

Let's continue the JSC tradition and volunteer on **December 25**, Christmas day, to help transport residents to and from the Chapel and participate with them in the planned program. This will allow the non-Jewish staff at Montefiore to spend the holiday with their families. The hours: **11 a.m. to 2 p.m.** To sign up, contact **Sandy Guth**, JSC Community Chair, **216-291-5869**.

### Project Learn: Reading Tutors Needed

Did you know that:

- In Cuyahoga County there are 1.1 million people who are 16 years of age or older, and of that population, 50 percent are reading at or below basic reading skill levels.

- The Cleveland population of that same age group is 382,365, and of that population, 72 percent are reading below basic skill levels.

- According to these statistics, 4 out of 5 adults cannot read or write well enough to function alone in today's society.

- Today, basic skill levels are considered to be at 8th grade reading level.

Project Learn is a literacy program that teaches basic reading and writing skills and pre-GED and GED instruction to adults and older youth. Project Learn is looking for volunteers who are able to attend a 7-hour Tutor Training Program at the Maple Heights branch of the Cuyahoga County Library. You will sign up to meet with students twice a week for 1.5 hours per session at a library in your area.

If this sounds like a volunteer opportunity for you, contact Project Learn, 216-621-9483.

### Winter Break Lunch Program Brights a Child's Holiday Season

Be a volunteer at the Jewish Volunteer Network's (JVN) Winter Break Lunch Program and help children who are at risk for hunger during their winter break.

Volunteers will serve hot nutritious lunches, play games, create crafts, and distribute holiday gifts to children in Cleveland's most vulnerable areas.

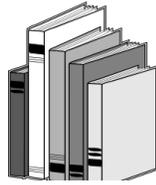
Volunteer shifts: 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., four locations in Cleveland

Volunteer orientation: **December 15, 7:00 p.m.**, Jewish Federation of Cleveland, 25701 Science Park Drive, Pepper Pike. For more information, contact **Jackie Reed, 216-593-2858**, or [jreed@jcfcleve.org](mailto:jreed@jcfcleve.org).

## JSC's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party

Set aside Sunday, June 25. That's when we are celebrating JSC's 50 ANNIVERSARY at Dino's at Acacia (formerly the Acacia Country Club.) It's going to be a real bash with great food, drinks, entertainment and a program that will highlight the past fifty years of JSC! Look for more announcements in the coming months!

## The Bookshelf



1. *Dolph Schayes and the Rise of Professional Basketball*. by Dolph Grundman (Syracuse University Press, 2015) 193 pages. Notes. Index.

2. *Abe Saperstein and the American Basketball League: 1960-1963*. by Murray Nelson (McFarland Books, 2014) 210 pages. Chapter Notes. Appendices. Index.

**If we were to pursue the question of Jews in American sports**, some of us would be surprised to learn that American Jews excelled in two sports in particular: basketball and boxing. Let's look at basketball in particular. Adolph Schayes (1928-2015) was the son of Romanian Jewish immigrants to the United States. He was a star player at New York University before he joined the Syracuse Nationals of the National Basketball Association (NBA) as a power forward. He was named to the NBA all-star team twelve times and he is listed as one of the top fifty players in NBA history. His son, Danny Schayes, played 19 seasons with eight different teams. Professor Grundman, a history professor at Metropolitan State College in Denver, offers us a vivid picture of Dolph Schayes the man, Schayes the player, and the many revolutionary changes that affected professional basketball during the playing days of Schayes in the NBA.



Many of us may remember Abe Saperstein (1902-1966) as the coach of the Harlem Globetrotters, the all-black, independent professional basketball team that played exhibition games around the country and the world. This book, by Murray Nelson, professor emeritus at Penn State University, is a lively study of Abe Saperstein and his role as the commissioner of the upstart American Basketball League (ABL) that challenged the dominance of the NBA during the three-year period of 1960-1963). It was the ABL that adopted the three-point shot that revolutionized the jump shot and brought with it a new style of play. Both books are well written and intended for a popular reading audience. Both books also remind us that American Jews have had a significant impact on one of our most popular professional sports.

– Mark Weber

## CSJO Joins the Secular Coalition of America

The Jewish Secular Community of Cleveland has been an affiliate of the Congress of Secular Jewish Organizations (CSJO) since JSC's founding in 1967. Being a part of this larger organization has given us a voice on a national scale for causes that we support, from women's rights to choose to Israel's right to exist.

Our presence on a national scale has been enhanced by the recent announcement that CSJO has joined forces with the Secular Coalition of America, thereby becoming its 19th voting member organization.

Terry Waslow, CSJO's Executive Director writes:

"On behalf of CSJO, I would like to express our appreciation for all the work the Secular Coalition of America does and to express our excitement to join as a voting member organization. Our engagement with the Secular Coalition and their advocacy to ensure the continuity of the secular character of our government reinforces our commitment to a secular expression of our Jewish heritage."

## **The JSC Membership Roster: New and Improved**

The 2016-17 JSC Membership Roster, currently being assembled by Lori Berenson, will have a new feature. Next to each listing will be a photo of the JSC member. These photos will be taken over the next few Shabbats. This is an optional feature for those members who choose not to have their photograph published.

### **Photo Gallery: November 18, 2016 Shabbat**



**Bert Stratton demonstrating Klezmer music**



**Photos by Audrey Halpern**

**Please fill out the following food identification label and bring it along with your potluck dish. This will allow members to:**

- determine whether or not they can or want to eat the food that you brought, due to allergies, sensitivities, or general likes/dislikes
- talk to you about the dish you brought
- thank you if they love the dish you brought
- ask you for the recipe

<p>Food Identification</p> <p>_____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Name of Food</p> <p>_____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Brought by</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Gluten Free</b> (contains <b>NO</b> wheat, barley, rye, oats)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Vegetarian</b> (contains <b>NO</b> animal products)</p> <p>Contains other allergens, including: <input type="checkbox"/> Eggs <input type="checkbox"/> Fish <input type="checkbox"/> Soy</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Shellfish <input type="checkbox"/> Tree Nuts <input type="checkbox"/> Peanuts <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Please list carefully as those with allergies can have severe and harmful reactions.</i></p>
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– Lori Berenson

## The JSC Mission

*The Jewish Secular Community, affiliated with the Congress of Secular Jewish Organizations, is a non-profit cultural and educational organization whose purpose is to:*

- ✧ *Encourage Jewish identification in a non-theistic setting that draws inspiration from the traditional Jewish sources and values*
- ✧ *Educate adults in the history, culture, and tenets of Judaism*
- ✧ *Celebrate and observe Jewish holidays and life cycle events*
- ✧ *Contribute to the betterment of our society through social action and volunteerism*
- ✧ *Provide a link to a world-wide community of secular Jews*

## JSC Leadership Contacts 2016 - 2017

### President

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