



The JSC Newsletter

Newsletter of the Cleveland Jewish Secular Community

www.jewishsecularcommunity.org

October 2017/5778

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Upcoming Events

Sun. Oct. 15-- Sukkot Celebration, p. 1

Fri. Oct. 20-- Shabbat Program-, p. 2

Sun. Oct. 22-- Board Meeting

2017-2018 Friday Shabbat Programs

Oct. 20 Jerry Graham. "Trump: Unprecedented, Unpresided or Both?"

Nov. 17 Patrick Kearns. Refugee Response

Dec. 15 Noah Budin. Songs of Chanukah

Jan. 26 Tu B'Shvat. TBA

Feb.16 TBA

Mar. 2 Purim. TBA

April 20 Cantor Greg Gelender. B'way Memories and Melodies.

May 18 TBA

The Holidays

SUKKOT CELEBRATION

Home of Edie and Walker Todd
1164 Sheerbrook Dr., Chagrin Falls, OH

Sunday, Oct. 15, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The Schedule: **1.** 11:00 a.m., meet, mingle, and set out dishes for the buffet; **2.** 11:30, Sukkah building and decorating; **3.** 12:00, secular celebration of Sukkot; **4.** 12:30, buffet lunch

RSVP required by Thursday, Oct. 12. Call Peg Fishman at (440) 349-1330 or pegfishman@gmail.com.

Directions:

Take extension Route 422 East, exit at the sign for Aurora/Bainbridge/South Russell. Turn left as you exit the expressway onto State Route 306 North, then turn left onto Sheerbrook Drive. Sheerbrook Drive is about 3 miles north of Route 422 exit. **OR**

Take State Route 87 East (continuation of South Woodland); turn right onto State Route 306 South. Sheerbrook Drive is about 3 miles south of Route 87.

NOTE: The sign for Sheerbrook Drive is on the lower part of the sign that says "Chagrin Lakes Club." Members and Guests:

Please pull into the driveway, drop off your food and other items, then park on the street.

BYOC (Bring your own chair); also gourds, winter squash and other decorations for the Sukkah.

JSC will supply grilled frankfurters, etc.
For potluck lunch:

Bring for 10-12 people.

Please list ingredients.

A-J—casserole, soup or stew

K-V—salad or vegetable side dish

W-Z—dessert.

Shabbat Dinner and Program Friday, Oct. 20, 2017

First Unitarian Church, 21600 Shaker Blvd.

Guest speaker: Jerry Graham, whose subject is “Trump: Unprecedented, Unpresidential or Both?”

Jerry Graham is a teacher, lecturer and outspoken observer of the political scene. He holds a B.A and M.A in political science.

NOTE earlier starting time. There is no guest fee for this special event.

Meet and mingle at **6:00 pm**

Shabbat program and potluck dinner at **6:15 pm**

Speaker **8:00 - 9:00 pm**

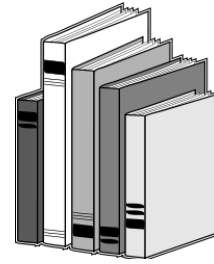
NOTE: We will be using a check-in list at all Shabbat programs. Your RSVP is important to help us plan for food and room set-up. Guests may attend two Shabbat programs at no charge. After that, the guest fee is \$20 for each Shabbat. The guest fee may be applied toward JSC membership dues. After the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

RSVP by Wed. Oct. 18 to
Lynn Salzbrenner [330-388-9393](tel:330-388-9393) or
lynnsalzbrenner@gmail.com .

Last names **A-D and H-Z** bring a side dish or salad for 6 (couples please bring enough for 12); **E-G** 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.

We need YOU to help with Shabbat each month. You can greet those who attend, or you might want to lead the candle lighting and Shabbat program. If you want to participate, contact Lynn Salzbrenner [330-388-9393](tel:330-388-9393) or lynnsalzbrenner@gmail.com

The Bookshelf



On Antisemitism: Solidarity and the Struggle for Justice. By Jewish Voice for Peace. Forward by Judith Butler. Chicago: Haymarket Books, 2016. 271 pages. Appendices I and II. List of Contributors, Additional Reading, Notes. Index.

In this illuminating collection of essays written by twenty-two scholars, activists, and cultural workers, and compiled by Jewish Voice for Peace, we read about efforts to redefine what constitutes anti-semitism in this era of an intensified debate over Israeli policy toward the Palestinian Arabs who live on the West Bank.

The book raises a number of questions: How do we define anti-semitism at the present moment? What is the relationship between anti-semitism and other forms of bigotry and oppression? How have false charges of anti-semitism been used to stifle criticism of Israeli policy and to intimidate those who seek to support the rights of Palestinian Arabs? This book is essential reading if we are to begin to understand how we can arrive at a definition of anti-semitism that contributes to genuine understanding and not merely serves as a tool for gaining the upper hand in an increasingly bitter and contentious debate over Israeli policy.

Jewish Voice for Peace (<http://jewishvoiceforpeace.org>) is a national grassroots organization inspired by the Jewish tradition to work for a just and lasting peace according to principles of human rights, international law, and equality for all the people of Israel and Palestine.

– **Mark Weber**

A Holiday Message from CSJO

In case you missed it, here again is a message from CSJO's Terry Waslow. It is a Rosh Hashanah greeting, but the message is applicable to the other 364 days of the year, too.

Tayere khaveyrim, dear friends,

The new year quickly approaches. Schools and other organizations are beginning the programming for the coming year and many are preparing for the holidays.

Rosh Hashanah, the new year, is the time to take stock and make a commitment to begin again and to become even better than the year before.

This is a season laden with symbols, round challahs, apples, honey and pomegranates. Some begin with Tashlich, a casting away of "sins." Some will go to a body of water and shake out their pockets. Some will join a community for a program. And some will spend time in solitary contemplation. Whatever we do, whether or not we participate in this symbolic act of Tashlich, we can all benefit by reviewing the past year and recognize what we could have done differently; what actions we could have taken to make a greater, more positive impact; what we did that might have caused hurt intentionally or not; what moment we missed when we could have offered a helping hand or eased someone's struggle. Only by reflecting on our own actions or lack of action can we commit to do better. It is only through our intentional behavior that we can build a better and equitable world. This is a time to make that commitment. Don't let this moment slip by as just another ordinary day. Embrace this time of year for what it can be: a chance to be our own champions in this world and have a hand in the creation of something more beautiful and just.

One way CSJO works to build a better world is by collaborating with other groups to let our voice be heard. As you may be aware, CSJO is a member organization of the Secular Coalition for America, along with 17 other groups. To view SCA's new video, [click here](#). When you have a moment, please take the time to watch it. You may notice our logo on the screen along with the logos of the other member organizations.

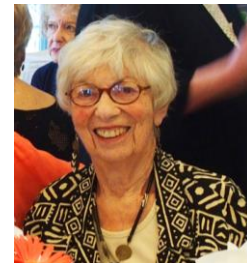
It is always good to learn about each other's ways of infusing these days with meaning. Share how your organization/school or family has created

new traditions.

May this year bring us all the strength and resilience to keep building and bring us closer to that beautiful world. L'shanah tova, a gut yor, happy new year!

Terry Waslow
Executive Director, CSJO

Mickey Stern 1929 - 2017



A near-capacity crowd filled the ballroom at Landerhaven on Thursday, September 28, to honor the life of Mickey Stern, who passed away on September 25 at the age of 88.

Although petite in stature, Mickey was a larger-than-life individual who persevered in spite of failing health issues; JSC members who attended Rosh Hashanah services in September spotted Mickey in the front row, as elegant as ever.

Mickey was courageous, actively supporting controversial causes throughout her life, from anti-war protesting during the Vietnam war, to taking a position on the Israeli-Palestinian issue that not everyone supported, to the co-founding of Preterm, a non-profit feminist abortion clinic, her proudest legacy.

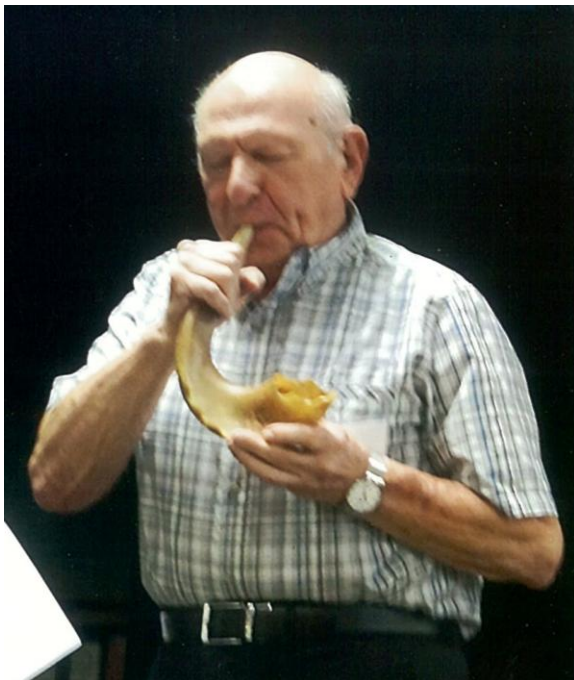
Closer to home, another legacy was her establishing, along with her life-long partner, Al, and several other families, the Cleveland Jewish Secular School in 1967. In July, the Jewish Secular Community, an outgrowth of the former organization, celebrated its 50th anniversary.

Mickey Stern is very much with us, and always will be.

**Photo Gallery:
Rosh Hashanah, September 21, 2017**



Photo by Audrey Halpern



Photos by Bob Goldberg

Please fill out the following food identification label and bring it along with your 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> <hr/> <p>Name of Food</p> <hr/> <p>Brought by</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Gluten Free (contains NO wheat, barley, rye, oats)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Vegetarian (contains NO 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><i>Please list carefully as those with allergies can have severe and harmful reactions.</i></p>

– 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*

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