



# The JSC Newsletter

Newsletter of the Cleveland Jewish Secular Community

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

September 2018/5779

**Editor:** Allen Guth

**Photographer:** Audrey Halpern

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## Upcoming Events

- Fri. Sept. 7** — Shabbat Program.  
Dr. Mark Sniderman--"Economics in the Age of Trump"
- Mon. Sept. 10** — Rosh Hashanah, pg. 1
- Tues. Sept. 18** — Erev Yom Kippur, pg. 1
- Wed, Sept, 19** — Break-the-Fast, pg. 2
- Sun. Sept. 23** — Sukkot Celebration, pg. 2
- Sun Sept. 30** — Board Meeting

## 2018-2019 Friday Shabbat Programs

- Sept. 7,** Dr. Mark Sniderman, Economy in the age of Trump
- Oct. 5,** Anita Gray, Anti-semitism in America
- Nov. 2,** Jeremy Genovese, Spiritualism in America
- Dec. 7,** Songs of Chanukah
- Jan 18,** Tu B'Shvat, Daniel Brown, Feed People Not Landfills
- Feb. 15,** Laura DeMarco, Cleveland Then and Now
- March 22,** Purim (TBA)
- April 12,** Jo Steigerwald, Seeds of Literacy
- May 10,** Jan Ridgeway, Garden Valley Neighborhood Center

## The Holidays

### ROSH HASHANAH

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

**Monday, September 10, 10:00 a.m.**

Please join us in this New Year celebration that will highlight and express the unity and cohesiveness of our secular community.

Rosh Hashanah program to be followed by a luncheon.

RSVP's are necessary and must be received by Wed., Sept. 5. **Contact:** Peg Fishman at (440) 349-1330 or [pegfishman@gmail.com](mailto:pegfishman@gmail.com).

The Rosh Hashanah program and lunch are "gratis" for members. For guests, there is a customary fee of **\$20.00**, which can be credited toward a JSC membership. If paying by check, make it payable to Jewish Secular Community.

### EREV YOM KIPPUR

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

**Tuesday, September 18, 7:30 p.m.**

The Kol Nidre will be played. Feel free to bring a personal reflection (poem, reading). Please keep it brief (3 minutes or less) and non-theistic. There will be time to share memories about deceased loved ones.

**NOTE:** Holiday programs are free for JSC members. For non-members, a customary donation of **\$15.00** (per person) is requested. If paying by check, please make

it payable to Jewish Secular Community. This fee can be credited toward a JSC membership.

### YOM KIPPUR BREAK-THE-FAST & PROGRAM

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

**Wednesday, September 19, 4:00 p.m.**

**RSVP** required by **Friday, Sept. 14.**

Contact Peg Fishman at (440) 349-1330 or  
[pegfishman@gmail.com](mailto:pegfishman@gmail.com).

Our program features Bill Rafalski who will show and narrate fascinating film clips of Jewish Hollywood.

Break-The-Fast is free for JSC members. For non-members, a customary donation of **\$20.00** is requested. If paying by check, please make it payable to Jewish Secular Community. This fee can be credited toward a JSC membership.

### SUKKOT CELEBRATION

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

**Sunday, Sept. 23, 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 **Wednesday, Sept. 19.** Call Peg Fishman at (440) 349-1330 or  
[pegfishman@gmail.com](mailto: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.

## 2018/19 JSC Board of Trustees



<b>President</b>	Mark Weber
<b>Vice President</b>	Allen Guth
<b>Treasurer</b>	Dorothy Werblow
<b>Secretary</b>	Edie Todd
<b>Friday Night Programs</b>	Mark Weber Karen Tucker Nora Kancelbaum Lynn Salzbrenner
<b>Holidays</b>	
<b>RSVP</b>	Peg Fishman
<b>Rosh Hashanah</b>	Dorothy Werblow Debbie Schwab
<b>Yom Kippur/Kol Nidre</b>	Christi Carlson Scott Radway
<b>Yom Kippur/ Break-The-Fast Sukkot</b>	Ron Fishman Edie Todd Walker Todd Nora Kancelbaum
<b>Chanukah Tu B' Shvat Purim</b>	John Szucs Lois Gross Andrew Gross
<b>Passover</b>	Ellen Schwartz Rifke Feinstein Bobbie Varble
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**Community Service** Sandy Guth  
**Good & Welfare** Debbie Schwab  
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**(Website/Postmaster)** Scott Radway

## **Shabbat Dinner and Program** **Friday, Sept. 7, 2018**

**First Unitarian Church**, 21600 Shaker Blvd.

Speaker: Dr. Mark Sniderman whose topic is:  
 "Economy in the Age of Trump."

Dr. Sniderman is the Adjunct Professor of Economics at the CWRU Weatherhead School of Management. He was formerly associated with the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, where he served as the principal adviser to the Bank president for economic and financial policy issues.

Meet and mingle at **6:30 pm**  
 Shabbat program at **6:45 pm**  
 Potluck dinner at **7:00 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., Sept. 5**, to Peg Fishman at (440) 349-1330 or [pegfishman@gmail.com](mailto:pegfishman@gmail.com).

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

### **A Dream Come True**

**As a young child in a Yiddish-speaking home in the Bronx, New York**, my mother took me to a few Yiddish plays. I understood every word and I loved the experience. I am no longer a young child, and I live in Cleveland, OH, but my dream

to see another Yiddish play came true recently ... and what a play it was!

Three months ago, in the Arts section of the *New York Times*, I read that there would be a Yiddish version of *Fiddler On The Roof*. I was overwhelmed, but recovered and bought two tickets that day! I then asked my cousin Helaine, who lives in New York City and could put me up for a weekend (and who understands Yiddish), if she'd like to go as my guest. Her "Yes!" was immediate, and I made flight reservations.

The reviews in the *New York Times* and the *Jerusalem Times* were outstanding. The play was being performed by the National Yiddish Theatre Folksbiene (Folksbiene = People's Stage), which is housed in the Museum of Jewish Heritage in Battery Park, New York. The Folksbiene presents both English and Yiddish shows, but this was the first time in 50 years (!!!) that the Yiddish version of *Fiddler* was being shown in New York for a wider audience.

My cousin and I sat in great anticipation before the play began, and as soon as the young woman, who played the "fiddler", began to play "Tradition", Helaine and I began to cry, and looking around, I saw we were definitely not alone!

The play was true to its original form and the translation was very good. For example, the title was a perfect translation... "fidler oyfn dakh". Tevye was performed by an outstanding actor who also was a singer and a dancer. His joy, his sadness and his love were portrayed beautifully. The dancers in the cast, portraying either khasidim or Russian peasants, were thrilling.

There were supertitles in both English and Russian, but I think the majority of the audience understood Yiddish, as the frequent laughter came before the translations were fully displayed!

I was home...amongst my people...and I loved every moment of this outstanding performance. And we heard a rumor that there is talk of taking this Yiddish play on the road! Be on the lookout for it...you won't be disappointed!!!

### Postscript

The day after I saw "fidler oyfn dakh", cuzzy Helaine and I were out walking. As it was very hot, we went into the 42nd St. Marriott Hotel to cool off. I sat in a chair opposite a young woman wearing a "Beautiful" T-shirt. Carole King was singing in the background, and I mentioned to the young woman how nice it was to hear Carole King's voice and look at her "Beautiful" shirt, which was the name of the Carole King musical. We chatted and she asked me if I had been to the theater yet this visit. When I said I had, she asked me for the name of the play. I only got as far as..."The Yiddish" when she stopped me and said..."Fiddler"!?!?!? "Yes", I said. Excitedly, she then told me that her best friend was the fiddle player who symbolized the "fidler oyfn dakh" in the show!!! Nine million people in NYC, and I met the friend of the woman (fiddler) who made me cry while she played the day before! I love serendipitous happenings and again, I wasn't disappointed!!!

– Rifke Feistein

**Check out this link for CSJO (Congress of Secular Jewish Organizations) information during the 2018-2019 year:**

<http://www.csjo.org>

## An Investment in the Future

**All organizations face the same challenge:** how to remain viable now and sustainable into the future. The Jewish Secular Community is no exception. We advertise in the *Cleveland Jewish News* during the Holidays and run news releases on a monthly basis in CJN and the suburban papers. To help attract new members, we will be reaching out to a new and larger audience, running 51 radio announcements on WCPN (90.3 FM) from August 27 through September 16. Tune in! The 15-second spots run throughout the day.

## JSC Jottings

The August 20 issue of *Crain's Cleveland Business* published an article extolling the accomplishments of longtime JSC member Greg Malkin. Greg is the Director of the Young Entrepreneur Institute at University School and fellow at the Burton D. Morgan Foundation.

Greg helps young people understand and utilize capitalism to advance themselves in the business world. At the Burton D. Morgan Foundation in Hudson, Greg will help the organization work with teachers and schools to promote entrepreneurship and financial literacy. Capitalism is not the perfect system, Greg maintains, but it is the best we have thus far in meeting personal and financial goals.

\* \* \*

The following letter from Karen Tucker was published in the August 24 *Plain Dealer*:

Although I'm doubtful, maybe the article ("Plastic,Plastic--everywhere, Aug. 15) will finally convince some people to use less plastic. It's not hard to bring useable bags for grocery shopping, for example; I cringe when I see a cart full of plastic bags, each containing only a few items. And very few of these will be recycled. If knowing that drinking water contains bits of plastic doesn't change people's behavior, I don't know what will.

## Photo Gallery: JSC 2018 Annual Meeting/Picnic



Photos by Audrey Halpern

**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> <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 2018 - 2019

### President

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\*Member of JSC Board of Trustees