



The JSC Newsletter

Newsletter of the Cleveland Jewish Secular Community

www.jewishsecularcommunity.org

October 2018/5779

Editor: Allen Guth
Photographer: Audrey Halpern

Copy Editor: Nora Kancelbaum
Contributor: Mark Weber

Upcoming Events

Sun Sept. 30 — Board Meeting

Fri. Oct. 5 — Shabbat Program.
Anita Gray, anti-Semitism in America, p.1

2018-2019 Friday Shabbat Programs

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

Shabbat Dinner and Program Friday, Oct. 5, 2018

First Unitarian Church, 21600 Shaker Blvd.

Speaker: Anita Gray whose topic is "anti-Semitism in America"

Anita Gray is the Director of Development, Cleveland Anti-Defamation League.

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., Oct. 3, to Peg Fishman at (440) 349-1330 or pegfishman@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.

JSC Social Event



You've probably heard about the Museum of American Porcelain Art. Now, thanks to the efforts of Social Chair Marcia Rosenthal, you can tour the museum located in the former South Euclid/Lyndhurst library, 4645 Mayfield Rd.

The tour includes a video presentation and curator talk about the creation of porcelain art. This is truly a fabulous porcelain art collection, and you don't want to miss it.

3:00 pm, Sunday, October 14.

We'll have dinner afterwards at Vicinato's Restaurant, corner of Richmond and Mayfield Rds.

Contact Marcia Rosenthal for reservations by Thursday, October 11 sunchoke@sbcglobal.net or **440 478-0099**.

Community Service

Jewish Family Services (JFS) has asked JSC for a helping hand, so we're planning to donate (*Tzedekah*) kosher food items to this worthy organization. Bring what you can to the **November 2** Shabbat. JFS has specifically requested kosher protein foods like canned tuna and salmon, fresh produce and grains and other jar and canned goods. Heinen's in University Heights has a large kosher food section, but you can find kosher foods at other Heinen's locations as well as Marc's and Costco.

Noted Israeli Historian Visits Cleveland

Noted Israeli historian Illan Pappé visited Cleveland at the invitation of the Northeast Ohio Consortium of Middle East Studies. His visit lasted for three days from September 12 through September 14. He spoke at three universities (CWRU, Cleveland State University and Kent State University) and at the Cleveland City Club. I attended two of his talks...one at Kent State and the other at the City Club.

In Kent, he spoke to an overflow crowd in the Governance Chambers and to a full house at the City Club. An official of the City Club told me that this venerable Cleveland institution received angry protests and membership cancellations because the City Club invited Pappé, a critic of Israel's military occupation of the West Bank, to speak.

Pappé, long-experienced in being the recipient of partisan attacks, simply made one telling point: In historic Palestine today, there are roughly 12 million people living between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea. Six million are Israeli Jews while the other six million are Palestinian Arabs. The Arab population has the higher birthrate. Within a decade Jews will be a minority in the territory claimed as a Jewish state. What will happen then: Israeli minority rule or majority rule? This will offer Israel and those who support its policies a choice: minority rule or democracy?

Many years ago, I was a member of the City Club. Because of the City Club's courage in standing up to intimidation, I rejoined.

– **Mark Weber**

Good & Welfare

When you're having some medical issues, it's nice to get a little cheering up. If you know of a JSC member who fits this description, contact Debbie Schwab -- Good and Welfare, 440-248-3030 -- and Debbie will get out a personal, "Hope You're Feeling Better" greeting. Be sure to send Debbie good news, too.

Teaching the Story of the Holocaust to Children

Some years ago, a junior high school teacher from Lexington, Ohio, was the featured speaker at our Friday night Shabbat program. The topic was "Teaching Children the Story of the Holocaust." Neither the teacher nor the children in the class were Jewish, yet she felt it was imperative that this story be told and retold.

In order for the victims of the Holocaust to resonate with her students and be more meaningful to them beyond the statistics of six million souls who lost their lives, the students were told to bring to class photos of their loved ones: parents, grandparents, siblings and other relatives. These photos were posted alongside those of actual Holocaust victims. That Friday evening, after her riveting presentation, JSC members gave her a standing ovation, probably the only time this accolade was accorded a guest speaker in over 50 years of Shabbat programming.

Teaching the story of the Holocaust to children remains both a task and a duty. Carrying this torch are a number of writers, foremost of whom is Jane Yolen, the author of over 300 books geared for children. A number of these books tell the story of the Holocaust in novel form. The most prominent are: *The Devil's Arithmetic*; *Mapping the Bones*, a retelling of "Hansel and Gretel"; and *Briar Rose*, based on "The Sleeping Beauty."

How do you relate the story of the death camps to young readers, describing all the terrors and horrors, without losing them as readers, or keeping them up all night. In other words, is mass murder the subject for a children's novel?

Yolen found a formula through use of fantasy, fairytales and time travel. In *The Devil's Arithmetic*, the protagonist is an American preteen named Hannah who has listened all her young life to the horrific stories of relatives who have survived the Holocaust. Hannah listens but cannot truly relate to these stories. During a Passover Seder when Hannah symbolically opens the door to the prophet Elijah, she is whisked back in time to 1942 Poland. In this new world, Hannah is now known as Chaya, but as Hannah she knows the fate that is about to befall her relatives as they are loaded onto the trains to

the death camps. As Chaya is about to walk through the door to the gas chamber with the others, she, as Hannah, is restored to her real life in America, now with a new appreciation of her relatives' stories.

The critic Ruth Franklin has written: "Yolen's novel speaks in a profound way to being an adequate witness to something that one has not directly experienced. Yolen has thrust a young reader back into the mind and heart of someone his or her own age. . . letting the protagonist ask the questions our young people want to ask. The answers they get from the folk in the story will astound them, shake them into new awarenesses, really let them remember and be part of history."

– Allen Guth

Photo Gallery: Erev Yom Kippur 2018



Photo by: Cindy Goldberg

Photo Gallery: Sept. 7, 2018 Shabbat



Featured Speaker Dr. Mark Sniderman



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> <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*

JSC Leadership Contacts 2018 - 2019

President

Mark Weber, 440-519-0220*
laboraction2000@gmail.com

Vice President

Allen Guth, 216-291-5869*
allenguth@gmail.com

Treasurer

Dorothy Werblow, 216-408-2840*
werblow@aol.com

Secretary

Edie Todd, 440-338-1169*
egmtodd@gmail.com

Friday Night Shabbat Programs

Lynn Salzbrenner, 330-388-9393
lynsalzbrenner@gmail.com

Madrikh

Mark Weber, 440-519-0220
laboraction2000@gmail.com

Holidays

Suzette Cohen, 440-449-1078
suzettecohen@yahoo.com

Peg Fishman, 440-349-1330*
pegfishman@gmail.com

Jim Mayer, 216-371-9937*
jim.mayer69@gmail.com

John Szucs, 216-932-7118*
Jszucs1937@gmail.com

Spike Radway, 216-691-1949
teamspike@mac.com

Christi Carlson, 216-691-1949
christicarlson@mac.com

Membership

Bobbie Varble, 440-498-4747
nanagramps@icloud.com

E-mail Postmaster

Scott Radway, 216-691-1949
teamspike@mac.com

Newsletter

Allen Guth, 216-291-5869*
allenguth@gmail.com

Social

Marcia Rosenthal, 440-478-0099*
sunchoke@sbcglobal.net

Community Service

Sandy Guth, 216-291-5869*
allenguth@gmail.com

Publicity

Sandy Guth, 216-291-5869*
allenguth@gmail.com

Good & Welfare

Debbie Schwab
440-248-3030

*Member of JSC Board of Trustees