



The JSC Newsletter

Newsletter of the Cleveland Jewish Secular Community

www.jewishsecularcommunity.org

November 2018/5779

Editor: Allen Guth

Photographer: Audrey Halpern

Copy Editor: Nora Kancelbaum

Upcoming Events

Fri. Nov. 2 — Shabbat Program.
Dr. Jeremy Genovese, Spiritualism in America,
p.1

Sun Dec. 2 — Board Meeting

2018-2019 Friday Shabbat Programs

Nov. 2, Dr. Jeremy Genovese, Spiritualism in America

Dec. 7, Chanukah, Veronica Dahlberg, Founder of HOLA

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, Nov. 2, 2018

First Unitarian Church, 21600 Shaker Blvd.

Speaker: Dr. Jeremy Genovese whose topic is "Spiritualism in America."

Dr. Jeremy Genovese is Associate Professor of Human Development and Educational Psychology at Cleveland State University. He has a range of research interests that include memory and behavioral learning theory.

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.

RSVP by Wed., Oct. 31, to Peg Fishman at (440) 349-1330 or pegfishman@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

Jewish Family Service (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, such as gefilta fish. Heinen's in University Heights has a large kosher food section with a variety of matzos, but you can find kosher foods at other Heinen's locations as well as Marc's and Costco.



Once again, it's the season of giving.

The National Council of Jewish Women is sponsoring Operation Warm-Up, a community collection of winter clothing for those in need.

You've been generous in the past years, so we know you'll do your part at the **December 7 Chanukah/Shabbat** when we'll be collecting the following:

- New/gently used Coats (XL-5XL only)
 - New/gently used Boots
 - New men's and women's Underwear
 - New Men's and Women's Socks
 - New/gently used Scarves, Gloves and Winter Hats
- (No Hoodies or Sweat Shirts)

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 Tuesday, **December 25**, Christmas day, to help transport residents to and from the chapel and participate with them in the planned program. The hours: **11 a.m. to 2 p.m.** To sign up, contact **Sandy Guth**, JSC Community Chair, **216-291-5869**.

Sandy Hook Elementary: More Than Just A Promise?

Friday, December 14, 2012, started off as just another ordinary day in the Barden household. In the early morning hours before sunrise, James Barden, 12, made his way down the driveway of his home in Newtown, Connecticut, and walked to the school bus. His brother, Daniel, 7, did not have to be in school until later, but he wanted to give his older brother a good-by hug, so he and his father, Mark, made their way to the bus. Daniel did not want to go back to bed but instead snuggled with his father on the couch.

Daniel was that kind of kid--loving, sensitive--explained Mark Barden before a capacity crowd at Temple Emanuel on October 8,

Daniel was killed later that morning, along with 19 other first graders and 6 teachers, in the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting. The shooter was a troubled young man, Adam Lanza, 20, who employed an Aris semi-automatic assault rifle that he also used to kill himself and his mother.

How could his tragedy have been prevented? When are legislators going to pass stricter gun laws? What can we do to become more aware of troubled young people before they resort to gun violence as an answer to their problems?

These are the questions and issues that inspired Mark Barden, a professional musician, and other Newtown parents to found Sandy Hook Promise, a movement that has spread nationwide and exists in many counties throughout Ohio.

Sandy Hook Promise basically consists of 4 "Know the Signs" programs:

- 1). Start with Hello---encourages children to look for peers that seem isolated.
- 2). Say Something--- tell parents and school personnel.
- 3). Safety Assessment and Intervention---a program developed by the F.B.I.
- 4). SOS---signs of suicide and the means to prevent it.

Sandy Hook Promise has had some impact over the last 5 years

-- More than 200 state-level gun laws have passed. Law makers in New York and Connecticut now ban possession of semi-automatic rifles and large-capacity magazines.

There is still much to be done to set things straight in memory of Daniel and his classmates: Every attempt at federal legislation to resolve gun violence in the U. S. has failed.

Post Script: the gun violence continues with last Saturday's anti-Semitic attack against members of the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh. Eleven were killed (as of this writing), among them a 97 year-old grandmother. The perpetrator, like those before him, had hate in his heart and a gun in his hand. Anti-Semitic attacks are up 57% this year according to the Anti-Defamation League. Our condolences to family and friends whose lives are changed forever.

– Allen Guth

Jim Wattenmaker 1924-2018

Our condolences to Beverly Wattenmaker, daughter, Karen, and the Wattenmaker family on the passing of of Jim on October 20. Jim and Beverly were former members of JSC. Jim was a regular attendee and vocal contributor to our men's discussion group. He founded Wattenmaker Advertising and shepherded it to great success before his retirement.

Mimi Feil: Understanding Dementia

The New Yorker magazine (Oct. 8) published an in-depth, 14-pg. article by Larissa MacFarquhar on the various ways to treat loved ones suffering from dementia and the numerous forms of Alzheimer's disease.

The New Yorker piece told of a nursing home in Chagrin Falls--the Lantern--in which its memory-care unit is designed to look like an American town from its residents' childhood.

The article also described an approach to dementia as prescribed and practiced by Naomi Feil. Naomi (known to her friends as Mimi) was a member, along with her husband Ed, of the Jewish Secular Community and left the organization some years ago to join their children on the West Coast.

For those of you who know Mimi, you'll find this excerpt from the magazine of interest:

"In the early nineteen-eighties, a social worker from Cleveland named Naomi Feil began to practice what she called validation therapy which rejected R. O.'s (reality orientation) absolutist position on truth. She believed that it was wrong to lie outright but also wrong to correct: The thing to do was to enter into the emotional world of the person with dementia and validate their feelings, because feelings were more important than facts. To many people working with patients, the idea that rigorous truthfulness was unnecessary and even harmful came as an enormous relief."

"To advocates of reality orientation, Feil's validation theory seemed not empathy so much as collusion. But the validation approach grew more and more popular, to the point where the idea of sticking to the truth came to be an unconventional position."

– Allen Guth

**Photo Gallery:
American Porcelain Museum
Social Outing
October 14, 2018**



Photos by Spike Radway

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) <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 <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