



The JSC Newsletter

Newsletter of the Cleveland Jewish Secular Community

www.jewishsecularcommunity.org

May 2020/5781

Editor: Allen Guth

Photographer: Audrey Halpern

Contributor: Jim Mayer, Marcia Rosenthal

FROM THE PRESIDENT

These are uncertain times for all of us and we on the Board are trying to plan accordingly. We would like to carry on with our meeting format that has worked for the last few years; social hour, service, catered/potluck meal and speaker, but we are keeping our options open. Sometime in August we will make decisions whether to convert to Zoom or combination Zoom and socially distance in-the-flesh meetings and for how long.

On June 14 at 11:00 a.m. we will hold our annual meeting by Zoom. Officers for the 2020-2021 year will be installed. It will be a time to socialize, trade stories, gossip and ask questions.

For future contributions in memory of members, their spouses, siblings, children, and parents please provide information to Marcia Rosenthal who will prepare appropriate cards so Greg Malkin can make the donation to appropriate nonprofit groups."

--Jim Mayer

Zoom Shabbat. Friday, May 22, 2020: Drawn to Action: The Art of Arthur Szyk

Polish-born Jewish artist Arthur Szyk was known for his richly detailed book illustrations and illuminations on Jewish themes. Deeply devoted to Judaism, to Poland, and to the United States, he created works that glorified their histories and their ideals, as well as the larger issues of democracy, civil liberties, and human rights. During World War II, he raised his pen against Nazi tyranny, calling the world's attention to the mass murder of Europe's Jews.

Speaker: Gregg Philipson

Mr. Philipson lectures internationally on Jewish related subjects including the Holocaust, Propaganda Art and Jewish Military History. The "Gregg and Michelle Philipson Collection and Archive" is regularly exhibited at major museums, universities, colleges, schools as well as U.S. military installations. In 2012 former Texas Governor Rick Perry appointed Mr. Philipson a Commissioner to the Texas Holocaust and Genocide Commission.

Meet & Greet

6:45 pm. Please log on early so that the program can start promptly at 7:00 p.m.

Click on this link to join the Meet & Greet and Zoom Shabbat:

<https://zoom.us/j/98712296299?pwd=aTJKTHVGdJpjVEwyYzFITVVWeTFPdz09>

Meeting ID: 987 1229 6299

Password: JSC

Food: provide your own challah, candles and wine. (BYOC&C and BYOB).

Shabbat Program. [Click here to download the Shabbat program](#) ahead of time. It will be shared on your screen during the service. If you will be using a mobile phone it would be helpful to have this already printed since the shared document will be hard to read on a small display.

RSVP by Thursday, May 21 to Peg Fishman, (440) 349-1330 or [Click here to RSVP](#). Please do not use the reply button to RSVP for events. Attendees limited to the first 100 to attend.

Here IS PROFESSIONAL HELP TO SET UP ZOOM:

Contact: Gary Feresenko
(Recommended by Spike Radway)
330-802-0921
Leave your name and phone number
Note: Email Gary prior to calling for PC support, including Zoom.
Email: gary@computereverywhere.com

Hourly rate \$75.00 Call for quote

Hello JSC Members

As a community we are accustomed to getting together on a regular basis for Shabbat dinners, holidays and social gatherings. We all look forward to these occasions when we can greet JSC members, sit next to one another, and enjoy each other's company.

Although we can't physically do that right now, that is all the more reason that as a community we must keep in touch in other ways. Most of us have access to a computer, so send an e-mail. And everyone has a phone, so pick it up and call a fellow JSC member. And the US Postal Service is still available (so far!) Put pen to paper and dash off a note.

And if you have news to share with the JSC community, send it to newsletter editor Allen Guth.

Here is some recent news which I would like to share with all of you.

Unfortunately, it is sad to report the loss of two JSC members

ELAINE SHERMAN passed away suddenly on April 6. A member of JSC for seven years. Elaine willingly and generously devoted time to JSC projects, notably serving as Membership Chairperson and more recently as Good and Welfare Chairperson. Elaine was oftentimes available to lend a hand when needed, whether it be for a social event, a holiday dinner, or whenever extra help was called for.

In addition to JSC, Elaine was active in the National Council of Jewish Women, Cleveland section, and a few years ago was the recipient of a prestigious volunteer recognition award from that group.

Most of all Elaine was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother and an extraordinary friend. She will be sincerely missed by a multitude of people. Sincere condolences are extended to her husband Don, her children, Susan, Ellen and Howard and her five grandchildren. We will miss you, Elaine.

RENEE LIPSON passed away in the beginning of May. A long-time active member of the Jewish Secular Community, Renee will be remembered for her dedication to several causes. Unafraid to voice her opinions on the many values she cherished, Renee was a staunch defender and spokesperson for her ardent beliefs. centered on defining the important role of an active, participating citizen.

She was dedicated and long-time friend of many JSC members, and appreciated everything they did for her. Many of us knew that her summers were meaningfully spent at the Chautauqua Institution, where she enjoyed the special setting and intellectual stimulation it offered.

Notable and unique in many ways, Renee was a one of a kind personality, sometimes outspoken, but always honest and sincere

and thoughtful in her opinions. She will be fondly remembered by many.

Sincere condolences are extended to her daughter Jodi, and family.

--Marcia Rosenthal

JSC Board Meeting Minutes, May 17, 2020

Present:

Jim Mayer, President; Allen Guth, Vice President and Newsletter Editor ; Edie Todd, Secretary; Greg Malkin, Treasurer; Ellen Schwartz, Holiday Coordinator; Lynn Salzbrenner, Friday Night Shabbat Program Coordinator; Marcia Rosenthal, Social Coordinator; Spike Radway, Electronic Media Coordinator; Rifke Feinstein, Madrikh.

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m.

Minutes: The reading of the minutes of the last meeting was omitted.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer submitted his report for review. To summarize, the budget balance was \$240.00 (Income - Expenses). The Vanguard account balance is \$61,344.00; the Ohio Savings Account balance is \$7,176.00.

New Business:

Use of the Unitarian Church facilities: As requested by the Unitarian church, a contract for use of their facilities for Shabbat programs will be negotiated; the Church requested that JSC pay an increased fee per program, suggesting that we propose a new rate to replace the current rate of \$100.00 per event. Lynn Salzbrenner will serve as the JSC spokesperson with the Church. The following motions were made and passed: 1. JSC will propose a payment of \$200.00 per event. 2. The two months of prepaid rental fees for April and May 2019, at \$100.00 per month, will serve as our donation to the Church. Note: we did not use the facility for those months due to

social distancing considerations associated with the COVID 19 pandemic.

Virtual and in-person programs: It was agreed that it is now too early to predict the degree to which the COVID 19 pandemic will impact JSC gatherings in the 2020-2021 year. The Board agreed to proceed with arrangements for both in-person and virtual programs and celebrations, including Shabbat Programs, Rosh-Hashonah, Kol Nidre, and Break-the-Fast observances. A decision how to proceed in September will be made at the August Board Meeting. Fred Sternfeld will be contacted to providing virtual music. Issues identified for face to face programs included whether to include food. Going forward it is likely that the choices will center on having only virtual programs for as long as indicated by pandemic concerns and having programs that will offer the choice between in-person and virtual attendance.

Virtual participation using a Zoom Account, soon to be purchased, will be made available to the membership. Technical help with accessing Zoom will be offered to members who are challenged by the technology. Spike has and will do so with Apple users; he will inquire about pricing by another computer businessperson for help to Microsoft PC users. Membership is to be surveyed as to their preferences and expectations regarding their own participation, i.e. in person or virtual. Membership feedback will be requested through the next newsletter and at the next Shabbat on May 22.

Annual Meeting: A motion was made and passed to have an Annual Meeting. The virtual (Zoom) Annual Meeting is scheduled for June 14. Officers will report on their activities and outcomes. The slate of candidates for the 2020-2021 Board will be presented for approval by membership. Allen will continue to recruit candidates.

Webiste: It was proposed that Shabbat speaker presentations be professionally edited and put on the JSC website. A motion was passed to have 3 presentations put on the JSC website as a trial for the effectiveness of this addition to the website; the charge for the editing is authorized up to \$100.00.

Memorial Donations: The following motion was made and passed regarding memorial donations: JSC will make donations in memory of the following: a member, a member's spouse, parents of a member, children of a member, siblings of a member. The recommended amount for the donation is \$50.00. At this time, donations are to be made in memory of Elaine Sherman and Renee Lipson.

Tabled topics:

Pricing of dues for 2020-2021 year.
Final decision on the format of the Fall celebrations: in-person with a virtual option or totally virtual.

Board Meeting: the next meeting is to be scheduled for August.

CLOSE: The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

--Edie Todd, Secretary

JSC CALENDAR 2020-2021

Friday	Sept. 11, 2020	Shabbat 6:30 – 9 pm
Saturday	Sept. 19, 2020	Rosh Hashanah (Solon Rec. Ctr.) 10 – 1 pm
Sunday	Sept. 27, 2020	Yom Kippur (Shaker Nature Ctr.) 7:30 – 9pm
Monday	Sept, 28, 2020	Break the Fast 4-6 pm
Sunday	Oct. 4, 2020	Sukkot (location TBD) 11 am
Friday	Oct. 9, 2020	Shabbat 6:30 – 9 pm
Friday	Nov. 13, 2020	Shabbat 6:30 – 9 pm
Friday	Dec. 18, 2020	Shabbat/Hanukkah 6:30 – 9 pm
Friday	Jan. 29, 2021	Shabbat/Tu BiShvat 6:30 – 9pm
Friday	Feb. 26, 2021	Shabbat/Purim 6:30 – 9 pm
Friday	March 19, 2021	Shabbat 6:30 – 9pm
Sunday	March 28, 2021	Passover (Solon Rec Ctr.) 5:30 – 9 pm
Friday	April 23, 2021	Shabbat 6:30 – 9 pm
Friday	May 21, 2021	Shabbat 6:30 – 9 pm

Draft 2 4-18-20 final

Unless otherwise specified, all programs held at Fellowship Hall,
Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Cleveland, 21600 Shaker Blvd.
Shaker Heights, Ohio.

Shabbat Speaker Schedule 2020-21

Sept. 11, 2020 (Lynn)

Oct. 9, 2020 Chrissy Martinez. “Human Rights and Immigration in Central America”. (Mark)

Nov. 13, 2020 Francis Chiappa. “America’s Campaign Against Nuclear Weapons”. (Mark)

Dec. 18, 2020 Mark Weber. “Judaism in a Pandemic Age”. (Mark)

Jan. 29, 2021 Sonny Simon. “Cuyahoga County’s ban on single-use plastic bags”.
(Karen)

Feb. 26, 2021 (Lynn)

March 19, 2021 (Lynn)

April 23, 2021 Emma Renfrew. “Foundation Beyond Belief”. (Lynn)

May 21, 2021 Hannah Servedio “Reproductive Rights in Ohio”. (Karen)

5-4-20

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 2019 - 2020

President

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