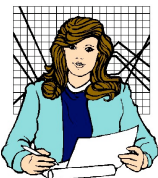


# SISTERHOOD

## NEWSLETTER

President: Sharon Sigler  
914-245-1506

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914-962-3715



### FROM THE PRESIDENT

Be-kol le-vavkha uve-khol nafshekha. With all your heart and with your soul.

Heart and Soul. That was the theme of this years Woman’s League Anniversary Shabbat, held on January 24th. Woman’s League tells us that each Sisterhood is the heart and soul of their organization. To take it one step further, I believe you are the heart and soul of Sisterhood. Each member contributes in her own way. You are all needed; you are all appreciated.

Thank you so much to Stacy Mitgang for arranging a wonderful Shabbat Dinner. We all had such a great time and the food was delicious. Big thanks to Cheryl Cohen, Linda Kingsbury and Stacy, again, for doing all the shopping for the Kiddush with Jackie Martins organizing the shopping lists! Cheryl and Maria Handwerger prepared the Kiddush and it was just perfect. Thank you to the leaders in this year’s service. Isabel Kopstein led Shaharit, Anne Lowy the Torah Service, Hanna Reinhertz read the Haftorah and Wendy Segal, subbing for a cold ridden Linda Kingsbury, led Musaf. Thank you to each and every participant in this year’s service. And to all the tireless women who helped clean up after the Shabbat Dinner and Kiddush. Heart and Soul.

**March 8th** is the packing and delivery of Mishloach Manot. Yes, Purim is just around the corner! Please contact Marsha Sternstein at 245-1024 and volunteer to help. While we’re marking our calendars, Rummage is slated for March 22nd. We need people to help with the

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**MISHLOACH  
MANOT BOX  
PACKING**

Sun., March 8th  
9 - 11 AM

RSVP: Marsha  
914-245-1024

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sale itself and, of course, we need your gently used items to make this a successful fundraiser.

Thank you to Susie Rudin and to Jackie Martins for their continued work heading the Bingo Kitchen and Catering, respectively. These are big fundraisers for Sisterhood and more people are always needed. Please feel free to contact us for volunteer opportunities. Egg salad and tuna have never been so much fun!

Keep warm during these winter months. Enjoy every minute with your family and friends.

Shalom, Sharon



**VISIT OUR GIFT SHOP**

Please call for an appointment: Stephanie Weiser 914-737-0649 or Maria Handwerker 914-245-4894.

**BUY A&P GIFT CARDS**

Please remember to buy your Sisterhood gift cards for use at A&P and Food Emporium. Use them to do all your food shopping. We earn 5% profit from the sale of these cards, and it costs you nothing, so be sure to pick up your gift cards soon! Call Rachel Seliber at 914-962-6738.



We need a few people for February 8th and February 22nd. The morning is covered, just need some help for the evening. This is a great way to stay warm on these cold winter nights. Huddled up with some good friends and helping a worthy cause. Please call Sue Rudin 845-528-6340.

**CARDS FOR ALL OCCASIONS**

TORAH FUND CARDS: Karen 914-962-7331  
BUILDING FUND CARDS: Marie 914-245-4894

**JEWISH LIVING: AN UNFORGETTABLE  
 SIYUM!**

*By Elaine Contard*

Prior to Hanukah, I participated in one of the most spiritually moving ceremonies of my synagogue life. Kol Rinah, the Westchester Jewish community choir in which I sing, was asked to participate in a celebration at Beth Am in Yorktown Heights. The congregation was marking the completion of the 'healing' of one of their Torahs, which had been rescued after the Holocaust. The intent of the Nazis was that this Torah, along with others, would be placed in the archives of a people who had since gone extinct. Beth Am elected to rescue this Torah.

Entering the sanctuary on the day of the *siyum* (celebration), I saw that a *chupah* had been set up with a table and chair under it. Next to the table was a lamp and on the table, some ink and quill pens. Why a *chupah* for this occasion? The *chupah* represented the marriage between the Torah and the Jewish people: the Torah was the '*kallah*' (bride) and would be partnered anew with 'her' congregation, upon 'her' physical re-beautification. 'She' had been in the congregation for generations - at *bnai mitvot*, special anniversaries and many *Simchat Torah* celebrations.

The ceremony would be two-fold. First, the Torah's healing would be completed by Neil Yerman, a *sofer* (scribe), who had worked to repair the parchment that had deteriorated, as well as the letters that had faded. Mr. Yerman mentioned that he actually saw an inky blue smoke rising up from the letters, as he worked on them! Months prior to the *siyum*, he helped the congregants in writing/ touching up the letters, with hand over hand help!

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**Jewish Living - Continued from page 2**

One of our Kol Rinah members, a Beth Am congregant, shared her personal recollection of the process and the effect of it on her. The second part of the *siyum* would involve the Torah being 'brought to' the congregants after its completion, that very evening.

That night, Kol Rinah was privileged to witness the final stage of the repair of the letters of the Torah, which included adding crowns to the first word of Genesis: *Beresheet*. Sitting in the first row of our choral seats, I was able to see the crowns being added, by viewing the overhead projector. What a breathtaking experience - to look on, while Mr. Yerman adorned the letters with the strokes and flourishes that gave them the look of a beautiful crown! Rabbi Weiner and Cantor Tortarello-Allen also had the honor of completing some of the letters, guided by Mr. Yerman.



It was time to bring the Torah to 'her' congregation. The scroll was unrolled to its full length, encircling the perimeter of the sanctuary. Honorary members of the congregation held the parchment upright, with special gloves, so as to keep it clean. Simultaneously, Kol Rinah sang songs, reminiscent of the past of the Jewish people: "*HaKotel*" ("The Wall") and "*Psalm 23*". How moving it was to sing during such a solemn moment! I couldn't take my eyes off this ceremony as the haunting words of these songs emanated from my lips. Next, the blessing before the reading was chanted in honor of those who had perished in the Holocaust. I will never forget that moment. Nor will I forget Cantor Toratello-Allen pointing with the *yad*, close to the upright parchment, as she chanted from the portion about Moses' radiant visage during his descent from Mount Sinai with the Law. The *bracha* after the reading was sung in honor of the children of the congregation, who came forward into the center of the sanctuary. How they watched with rapt attention! Finally, the Torah was re-rolled as Kol Rinah sang "*L'Eyla*", (a South African setting of a Jewish piece) in a rising crescendo of jubilation!

**MASORTI MAKES MEZUZAH HISTORY**

The first - and so far, only - female soferet stam, scribal writer in Israel, has donated her first mezuzah to the Masorti movement, making

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 Janine Gherson..... 25  
 Nancy Rosa.....25  
 Donna Deiner..... 28  
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Joan & Jules Brodsky..... 26

**IHOS**

**HELEN & JERRY WEISBERGER**

- ☆ Murray Reinhertz on his 80th birthday.
- ☆ Helen on her birthday January 14th.
- ☆ Our granddaughter Sara Jodi Reinhertz on her 9th birthday, January 5th.
- ☆ Our granddaughter Ariana Reinhertz who always makes us so proud.
- ☆ Our daughter Hanna on her beautiful Haftorah reading at Sisterhood Shabbat weekend.

Please note that there is NO February General Meeting. .



**SHABBAT CANDLE LIGHTING**

*You shall call the Sabbath a delight. - Bible*

Feb. 6.....	4:59 PM
Feb. 13.....	5:08 PM
Feb. 20.....	5:16 PM
Feb. 27.....	5:25 PM



## Calendar of Events 2008-2009

*Knitters Group meets every Monday  
morning at 9:30*



### February

Thursday 2/12 Sisterhood Board Meeting 7:30PM

### March

Sunday 3/8 Packing and Delivery of Mishloach  
Manot

Thursday 3/12 Sisterhood Board Meeting 7:30PM

Sunday 3/22 Sisterhood Rummage Sale

### April

Thursday 4/2 Sisterhood Board Meeting 7:30PM

Sunday 4/26 Sisterhood General Meeting  
10-12PM

### May

Thursday 5/14 Sisterhood Board Meeting 7:30PM

Sunday 5/17 Sisterhood General Meeting, Top  
Chef & Vote 10-12PM

### *Mezuzah - contd. from page 3*



Masorti the only organization in the Jewish State to have a mezuzah written by a woman.

Those who gathered in Masorti's Jerusalem office

on September 25th for the exciting dedication felt a part of history as Rabbi Chana Klebansky described the spiritual process of writing the text for insertion in a mezuzah and then affixed the new mezuzah to an office doorpost, reciting the appropriate blessings. Twenty NOAM counselors from chapters around Israel joined Masorti lay and professional leaders for the dedication ceremony. With Rabbi Tamar Elad-Appelbaum on guitar, the group chanted the *schehechyanu* prayer to mark the occasion.

*Women's League for Conservative Judaism, Ba'Olam Jan.*

# Dated Mail

