

## **Knoxville Jewish Alliance Mission**

To serve Jewish life by providing the democratic forum, the organizational structure, the physical home and the financial means to support and promote the cultural, social, intellectual and general welfare of the entire Jewish community of Knoxville and the Jewish community across the world.



*Annual Meeting  
January 7, 2007*

*Welcome – Ellen Schnoll*

*Opening Benediction – Rabbi Louis Zivic*

*Volunteer Tribute – Ellen Kern*

*Hamotzi – Rabbi Yossi Wilhelm*

*Tapas and Spirits*

*KJA Meeting*

*President's Report – Ellen Schnoll*

*Treasurer's Report – David Oleshansky*

*Campaign Report – Stephen Rosen*

*Presentation of Slate and Election of Officers and Board – Marilyn Liberman*

*Installation of Officers and Board – Mary Linda and Arnold Schwarzbart*

*New President's Remarks – Scott B. Hahn*

*KJCFF Presentation – Mary Linda Schwarzbart*

*[www.jewishknoxville.org](http://www.jewishknoxville.org)* *Presentation – Jane Cohen*

*GA Report and Video – Bernie Rosenblatt*

*Closing Benediction – Rabbi Beth Schwartz*

## **Slate of Officers January -December 2007**

### **KJA Executive Board**

**Scott B. Hahn**, President  
**Dr. Ellen Schnoll**, Immediate Past President  
**David Oleshansky**, Treasurer  
**Dr. Renee Hyatt**, Secretary  
**Stephen Rosen**, President Elect  
**Vacant**, V.P. Administration  
**Stephen Rosen**, V.P. Campaign  
**Seth Schweitzer**, V.P. Children and Youth  
**Manuel Herz**, V.P. Education and Culture  
**Ellen Kern**, V.P. Human Resource Development  
**Marilyn Wohl**, Jewish Community Resources  
**Jane Cohen**, V.P. Public Relations

### **Members-At-Large (2-year term):**

Justin Bell, Marilyn Liberman, Rosalie Nagler, Jill Weinstein

### **Members-At-Large (1- year term):**

Barbara Bernstein, Dr. Caren Gallaher, Dan Smith, Paul Steinfeld

### **Board of Directors by virtue of community position**

Rabbi Beth Schwartz, Rabbi Louis Zivic, Melissa Feinbaum, Pat Rosenberg, Joan Leeds, Bernie Shorr, Arnold Cohen, Bella Budik, Wilma Weinstein, Arnold Schwarzbart, Mary Evars-Goan, Karen Robinson, Mary Linda Schwarzbart

### **Nominating Committee:**

#### **Marilyn Liberman, Chair**

Scott Hahn, Ellen Kern, David Oleshansky, Janice Pollock, Ellen Schnoll, Seth Schweitzer, Tamara Sturm

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

The Knoxville Jewish Alliance cares for those in need, rescues those in harm's way  
and renews and strengthens the Jewish people in Knoxville, in Israel and around the  
world.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

### Ellen Schnoll, Ph.D.

As I look back at the 2005 Annual Report I can only be amused. Not only did I label the previous year as “challenging”, but I addressed the interviewing of candidates as a process that would soon produce a new executive director. Little did we know that we would function for the entirety of 2006 without an executive.

The challenge has been enormous, but it has also provided opportunities for insight and growth. The leadership has had an opportunity to understand the complexities of the day to day functioning of the KJA and this understanding has helped to prioritize the needs of the organization. We will be much better stewards of the KJA with the experience that we have gained. As we transition with a new executive director we will be better able to help set priorities.

And, at the end of 2006 the Knoxville Jewish Alliance is strong. Please allow me to share with you some of the highlights from the past year:

- B’nai Tzedak, our Teen philanthropy program, is off to a fantastic start under the capable guidance of Deborah Oleshansky. As of this writing 26 teens have established funds and a significant number of teens participate in ongoing service projects. East Tennessee Foundation is eager to use our program as a model for the development of teen philanthropy. Thanks to Deborah Oleshansky, Chair Jeff Becker and his committee.
- The Executive Search Committee interviewed and entertained 7 candidates beginning in December 2005. Many additional candidates were interviewed over the phone and references were checked before deciding that they were not a good fit for our community. The entire community welcomed our candidates and provided hospitality, guidance and feedback in our exhaustive search for an executive director. This represents countless hours of volunteer time. Thanks to chairs David Oleshansky and Scott Hahn, to the search committee and to all who participated in the process.
- The 2006 Campaign not only reached its goal of \$425,000, but introduced successful programming for various affinity groups within the community. A reception for University of Tennessee Jewish faculty brought together 30 faculty members, many of whom commented on the positive aspects of getting together as a group. *Yasher koach* to Stephen Rosen for a very successful Campaign.
- The Israel Emergency Campaign began with a successful and well-attended solidarity rally designed to show our support of Israel. Over \$37,000 was raised to support the ongoing needs in Israel. Thanks to Marilyn Liberman and Barbara Bernstein for this very successful campaign.
- Summer pool memberships were well ahead of budget. 80 summer members enjoyed a relaxing summer at poolside.
- The Smokin’ Salmon Swim Team, 115 strong, finished the regular season undefeated and also finished first in their GKAIISA league. We say good-

bye and thank you to long time coaches Marshall Goldman and Erin Phillips.

- KJA Leadership: Jewish Knoxville Class of 2006 graduated 13 leaders, both new and seasoned, who participated in an eight-month leadership program. New this year, each 'graduate' may elect to attend a regional or national leadership conference, with KJA covering the registration fees. This includes the UJC Annual General Assembly, Regional United Jewish Communities Conference, JCCA Biennial, JFS Annual Conference, or a comparable amount applied to an Israel trip. Thanks to Ellen Kern for an excellent leadership development program.
- The new KJA website is up and running. The jewishknoxville.org site is now hosted by UJCWeb Subscription Service and provides updated national, international and world Jewry content, online donations, an easily maintained calendar and a very readable format. Thanks to Jane Cohen and Bella Budik for the many hours put in to the migration and development of the site.
- Our three-star preschool opened a new classroom in November, giving us both the flexibility to have mixed age group classrooms and the ability to increase our population. A storage room that has at times served as a game room and teacher workroom was renovated with an egress window, new heating and the donations of furniture. Thanks to Seth Schweitzer and Becky Goemaat for their vision and their commitment to providing an excellent preschool program.
- Milton Collins Day Camp had a very successful summer, averaging 120 campers per session, and passed the rigorous ACA accreditation process with flying colors. Camp K'ton ton was tremendously successful, increasing enrollment by 20% - a full program throughout the summer.
- Jeff and Nancy Becker chaired a successful Israel Mission with 28 participants.
- Comprehensive programming included Yom HaShoah, an Israelfest Celebration that coincided with the opening of the pool, Mini-CAJE, Jewish Book Month with featuring two authors and the traditional book fair.
- A budget surplus allowed us to significantly increase allocable funds by 75%, repay a portion of a loan to the Endowment Fund, set aside money for Executive Director salary enhancement and provide for some long overdue capital expenditures.
- The Community Relation Committee, capably chaired by Arnold Cohen, worked overtime to have an impact on both a harassment policy and a discretionary time policy before the Knox County School Board. Thanks to Arnold and the CRC Committee as well as Leslie Snow for bringing these issues to the Jewish community and the greater Knoxville community.

- The Archives, under the guidance of Chair Barbara Bernstein hired archivist Nikki Russler and continued to chronicle Jewish life in Knoxville. Thanks to the Bernsteins for making the Archives a reality.

#### The KJA is strong because of the staff.

The KJA staff has done a remarkable job of running the organization on a day-to-day basis and continuing our mission. Ed Hunter, without hesitation, assumed the role of site manager and has done a fantastic job of handling the responsibilities of bookkeeper while additionally providing wise counsel to the staff (and to the volunteers) and making the many required daily decisions. The pleasant voice that you hear on the phone is our new office manager Wilma Weinstein. Wilma has jumped in with both feet and has been a wonderful asset to staff and volunteers. Deborah Oleshansky continues to wear many hats-volunteer extraordinaire and Director of Young Adult programming- and her vision, sensitivity and passion have energized Hillel programming and helped make sure that B'nai Tzedak is off to a fantastic start. Beth Heller, Senior Adult Program Director, and Nancy Britcher, Director of Jewish Family Services, continued to provide excellent services and programming that have made their programs so successful. The AJCC Preschool continues to grow and thrive under the wonderful supervision of Becky Goemaat. The Voice continues to be a useful communication tool for the entire community under the care of Joyce York.

Sandy Parsons has been our program director for the past seven years. She has worked closely with volunteers to create and produce our very successful programming. At times, she has had to function without volunteers and she has always produced high-quality programs that the community has enjoyed and that have served to bring the Jewish community together. Sandy is retiring at the end of 2006 but we will continue to benefit from her expertise as she functions as a volunteer.

Thank you all for your continued commitment, your creativity and sensitivity and your support!

#### The KJA is strong because of the volunteers.

The Management Committee was formed at the beginning of 2006 to address the day-to-day issues of running the KJA. Thank you to Marilyn Liberman, Scott Hahn, Pace Robinson, David Oleshansky for the difficult decisions, the countless hours of discussion and meetings, and the thousands of emails as we tackled issues of personnel, budget, facilities, programming and of course, the ever present executive search.

The Search Committee, initially chaired by David Oleshansky and then by Scott Hahn, had what first appeared to be a difficult task and then became a Herculean task. David spent countless hours talking with candidates and UJC, arranging the details of visits, communicating with the committee and the community, and developing employee agreements. Working with a job description that had 1) campaign 2) facilities management and staff development as priorities, the committee exhaustively interviewed seven candidates and reviewed the resumes of several other candidates. While the search took significantly longer than expected, the committee was determined to find an executive director who was a good fit for

our community. I am pleased to report that we have an executive director who is as eager to be in Knoxville as we are to have him. A huge thank you to David and Scott and to committee members Melissa Miller Feinbaum, Marilyn Liberman, Mimi Pais, Pace Robinson, Stephen Rosen, Mary Linda Schwarzbart, Seth Schweitzer, Dan Smith, Laura Supman for a job well done.

The Executive Committee, functioning without an executive director, had to rewrite some of the rules and take on a number of new tasks. David Oleshansky capably handled every aspect of our finances and also took on a significant number of administrative responsibilities. Seth Schweitzer, VP Child and Youth, supervised Milton Collins Day Camp, the Smokin' Salmon Swim Team and the pool. This was an enormous task that included ACA (American Camping Association) accreditation for day camp and a pool that had a summer of staff turnover. And, as the summer was drawing to a close Seth designed and supervised our new preschool classroom. Ellen Kern, VP of Human Resource Development, completed a very successful Leadership Jewish Knoxville Class and continued to grow the equally successful New Connections. Debbie Richman served as VP of Education and Culture while creating and then directing the new Center for the Arts. Stephen Rosen, in his first year as VP Campaign, successfully reached our campaign goal, brought together new affinity groups and most important, did an excellent job of sharing our message with the community. Jane Cohen, VP Public Relations, managed the Voice, spending hundreds of hours proofing and writing, and at the same time created and imported our new website. Marilyn Wohl, VP Jewish Community Resources, provided excellent oversight of a very large portfolio which included Jewish Family Service, Friendshippers, Archives, Hillel and P2K and then volunteered to help with every event or program. Scott Hahn, as President Elect, took over leadership of the Search Committee and was also available for any and all tasks and contributed significantly to the smooth daily operations. Renee Hyatt not only took wonderful minutes but helped us to sensitively handle some very difficult discussions. Jay Shuman worked on the ever-present facilities issues and had oversight insurance policies. Marilyn Liberman, Immediate Past President, provided wise counsel and a wonderful ear and, as if that were not enough, had an integral role in our programming and chaired the Israel Emergency Campaign. This is a remarkable group of people who were, and continue to be, committed to the mission of the KJA.

#### The KJA is strong because of you.

Volunteers have always been the backbone of the KJA, but functioning without an executive required that the volunteers take on new responsibilities. Each of you stepped up to make sure that we continued to provide the high level of services and programming that make us a very special community.

The KJA is strong because we have all worked together with a shared vision. Thank you for the privilege of serving as president for the past two years. And with gratitude I thank you for all that you do.

## **Treasurer's Report – 2006**

### **David Oleshansky**

The staff, volunteers and fiduciaries of the KJA have been good stewards of our legacy. In 2006, we prudently managed our resources, paid close attention to controlling our expenses and worked to increase our revenues. We had a positive response to our first general membership dues increase in many years. Our fee for service programs (mainly Camp and Preschool) have performed well. Our facility, while showing its age and still needing concerted attention, has continued to serve us. Our renovation projects included creating a new pre-school classroom from a storage room, resurfacing the parking areas and fixing our outdoor lighting. Next year, pending final Board approval, we plan to revamp our computer system and make the pool deck even safer.

As has become the tradition, we again had a successful AJCC Golf Tournament – special thanks to Irv and Myrna Russotto! Additionally, we have received grants and donations to many of our programs, including, but not limited to, the Early Childhood programs, the Jewish Student Center, Jewish Family Services and the B'nai Tzedek Teen Philanthropy program. Thank you to all who support the KJA with your dollars and time.

Please accept my sincere appreciation to each of you who helps make the KJA the "Center" of our Knoxville Jewish Community.

## **KJA Campaign Update 2006**

### **Stephen Rosen, Vice President**

The goals for campaign 2006 were:

- Create a positive environment for giving
- 10% increase from current donors
- 10% increase in new donors
- Minimize staff time and dollars spent raising money
- Develop UT Faculty and Legal Community affinity groups
- \$425,000 in donations

The results are almost all in and it is the general consensus that KJA campaign has been a success. As of December 8, 274 donors had pledged \$417,000. On a donor-per-donor basis, this is up \$48,000 from 2005. Of those gifts, 167, or 61%, were 10% or greater increases from 2005. Twenty-four members of the community made gifts for the first time. The best news is that during the process, the donor community's response was supportive, thankful, and congratulatory of KJA's efforts to raise money for the Jewish community of Knoxville, the US, Israel and around the world.

A particular point of emphasis was the development of the UT Faculty and Legal Community groups. These two "affinity groups" give approximately 10% each of our total contributions. Our donor involvement in these areas has increased and we will continue to have events for these groups. KJA thanks Gilya Schmidt, JP Dessel and Arnold Cohen for assistance with these programs.



In 2006, we spent less than \$5000 in hard dollars on fundraising. This does not count staff time which we also attempted to minimize. Our campaign is 100% led and executed by volunteers. I would like to thank the following people who represented KJA and solicited gifts this past year: Jeff Becker, Nancy Becker, Barbara Bernstein, Jane Cohen, Melissa Miller-Feinbaum, Scott Hahn, Renee Hyatt, Marian Jay, Ellen Kern, Marilyn Liberman, Lee Miller, Howard Pollock, Pace Robinson, Gene Rosenberg, Ellen Schnoll, Arnold Schwarzbart, Mary Linda Schwarzbart, Jay Shuman, Susan Silber, Terry Silver-Alford, Dan Smith, and Marilyn Wohl. A special thank you also goes to Deborah Oleshansky for once again chairing a very successful Mitzvah Day.

## Knoxville Jewish Alliance, Inc.

### 2005 External Allocations

Israel and Overseas	(in \$)
United Jewish Communities (formerly UJA)	61,340
Birthright Israel	1,400
New Israel Fund	600
<b>Knoxville</b>	
KJA Scholarships	4,000
UT Chair of Judaic Studies	3,000
BBYO Local Board	1,400
Hadassah	600
Indigent Burial Fund	600
Interfaith Health Clinic	500
Dr. M. Luther King Jr. Comm. Commission	310
Transient Fund	150
<b>North America</b>	
Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith	500
Hillel	500
Coalition for Adv. Of Jewish Education (CAJE)	200
American Jewish Congress	100
Jewish Braille Institute	100
National Foundation for Jewish Culture	100
<b>Southeastern United States</b>	
Jewish Children's Regional Services	2,200
Tennessee Holocaust Commission	1,750
American Israel Chamber of Commerce	1,000
Cotton States BBYO Regional Office	1,000
New Orleans JCC	250
<b>KJA EXTERNAL ALLOCATIONS TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 81,600</b>

## **Israel Emergency Campaign**

### **Marilyn Liberman, Chair**

More than 100 people attended a KJA sponsored Israel Solidarity rally at the AJCC on July 24, 2006 with guest speaker Steven Edelstein, Nashville Jewish Federation Executive Director. He had just returned from Israel and described his experiences as the war began.

A committee headed by Marilyn Liberman, Ellen Schnoll and Barbara Bernstein organized this event in record time after the bombing started to enable our community to show our support of Israel. Almost \$10,000 was collected at the rally and over \$27,054 was raised in the following weeks. The total amount raised was \$37,054.

These Israel Emergency Campaign funds went directly to help the citizens of Israel cope with the consequences of terror. Our donation was part of the \$287.4 million raised nationally through UJC/Federation Israel Emergency Campaign. Every dollar went directly to help the citizens of Israel cope with the consequences of war.

The enthusiasm of our community in both its participation and financial support at the rally gave everyone a feeling of unity and hope with the people of Israel.

## **Knoxville Jewish Alliance Annual Meeting Minutes December 18, 2005**

Ellen Schnoll called the meeting to order at 10:45 AM.

Ellen Schnoll opened the meeting by thanking all in attendance that had come to honor Bernie Rosenblatt and wish him well in his retirement. She pointed out that the covers for the Annual Report were created by the AJCC Preschool children as a tribute to Bernie.

Jane Cohen read a Poem and showed a slide presentation sent by our Partnership 2000 partners in Hadera-Eiron, Israel in appreciation for all of Bernie's work and enthusiasm for the P2K and the Camp Tikkun Olam Teen exchange program.

Ellen Schnoll thanked the Annual Meeting Committee for their successful efforts, including Diane Cole, who coordinated and catered the brunch, Jane Cohen, as chair, Marilyn Liberman, and Marilyn Wohl.

Rabbi Zivic gave a blessing for Bernie and then led the Motzi. Next, attendees enjoyed the delicious brunch.

The President's report by Ellen Schnoll, Treasurer's report by Stephen Rosen and Executive Director's report by Bernie Rosenblatt are available in the Annual Report 2005. Stephen reported on the plans for a 10% increase in membership dues, raising fees for camp and pre-school, and looking for 110% from the community so that Campaign can grow by 10%. He thanked Bernie for being efficient both

programmatically and financially, noting that “not a dime has been wasted.” Ellen Schnoll thanked Stephen for his work as treasurer for more than the past ten years.

Bernie told us to look for exciting new programming through the Knoxville Center for the Arts; the brochure will be mailed in January, 2006.  
In March, 2006, twenty-eight people from Knoxville will be participating in the KJA mission trip to Israel.  
Tennessee will host the GA 2007 in Nashville.

Bernie outlined the future challenges for KJA:

- 1) Campaign, \$400,000 will be insufficient,
- 2) Forward with the community campus concept as this reflects on how to come together as a community,
- 3) New Jewish leadership,
- 4) The KJCFF to help insure the community’s future.

Bernie thanked Ellen Schnoll for her guidance and being a great partner this past year. He also thanked all the past presidents, committees and chairpersons, and his incredible wife, Lesley.

Election of Officers – Marilyn Liberman, chair, Nominating Committee. The slate of officers for 2006 was approved by acclamation.

Pace Robinson served as the master of ceremonies for the tribute to Bernie that followed. Ellen Scholl presented the following resolution:

In recognition of the excellent counsel, leadership, and achievements of Dr. Bernard Rosenblatt during his tenure as executive director of the Knoxville Jewish Alliance and its predecessors, the board of directors resolves to create:

#### **The Dr. Bernard S. Rosenblatt Fund**

The fund will be sponsored by the Knoxville Jewish Alliance and its purpose will be to benefit a wide range of activities within the Knoxville Jewish community. When the fund reaches a minimum level of qualification, it will be moved to the Knoxville Jewish Community Family of Funds.

Ellen announced that The Dr. Bernard Rosenblatt Fund had reached the \$5,000 level and would be moved to the KJCFF.

The following community members delivered their personal and professional tributes to Bernie on behalf of their committees or organizations:

Judy and Abraham Brietstein, P2K Committee Chairs

Ellen Iroff, Tikkun Olam Camp Alum

Rabbi Beth Schwartz, Temple Beth El

Scott Hahn, Board of KJA

Sandy Parsons, KJA staff

Rabbi Yossi Wilhelm, Chabad

Mary Evars Goan, Hadassah

Bernie Shorr, Friendshippers

Judith Rosenberg, BBYO

Jane Cohen showed the Tikkun Olam 2005 video documentary created with the help of David Drews, Tikkun Olam Camp Director. There was a surprise conference call

from Hadera-Eiron and many of the Israeli P2K partners and Tikkun Olam teenagers were able to extend their best wishes to Bernie.

Carolyn and Terry Silver-Alford performed some songs with lyrics written for the occasion while a chorus line of past presidents swayed in time to the music.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Renee' Hyatt

KNOXVILLE JEWISH ALLIANCE, INC.													
Statement of Activities - General Fund													
Period Ending November 30, 2006													
Line No		Campaign	Children & Youth	Education & Culture	General & Admin	Human Resources	Jew. Com Services	Public Relations	Treasurer	TOTAL	2006 Budget	Budget Balance	Line No
1	REVENUES												1
2	Contributions & Pledges												2
3	Pledge Income - Men	272,066	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	272,066	255,000	(17,066)	3
4	Pledge Income - Women	144,029	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	144,029	170,000	25,971	4
5	Contributions	240	0	376	0	0	23,491	2,000	982	55,604	33,750	(21,854)	5
6	Total Contributions & Pledges	416,335	25,984	420	2,111	376	23,491	2,000	982	471,699	458,750	(12,949)	6
7	Dues												7
8	Regular Dues	0	0	0	75,649	0	0	0	0	75,649	74,000	(1,649)	8
9	Summer Dues	0	27,352	0	0	0	0	0	0	27,352	25,300	(2,052)	9
10	Total Dues	0	27,352	0	75,649	0	0	0	0	103,001	99,300	(3,701)	10
11	Fees (Service & Tuition)	0	475,211	6,406	0	0	1,863	125	2,776	486,380	560,688	74,308	11
12	Fundraising	0	6,774	79	0	0	873	0	6,934	14,660	24,904	10,244	12
13	Grants & Allocations	100	23,207	2,320	0	750	13,500	0	0	39,877	51,420	11,543	13
14	Investment Revenue	0	0	0	9,533	0	4	0	0	9,537	8,000	(1,537)	14
15	Other Revenue	0	20,501	1,744	7,558	0	2,967	4,000	20	36,790	41,330	4,540	15
16	TOTAL REVENUES	416,435	579,028	10,969	94,851	1,126	42,698	6,125	10,712	1,161,944	1,244,392	82,448	16
17	EXPENSES												17
18	Advertising	22	4,601	0	0	0	170	0	0	4,793	6,360	1,567	18
19	Allocations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19
20	Bad Debt Expense	0	0	0	1,146	0	0	0	0	1,146	2,000	854	20
21	Bank/Card Charges	1,699	5,530	173	1,930	0	51	0	0	9,383	9,165	(218)	21
22	Building & Grounds Expenses	70	11,143	84	46,050	0	182	0	0	57,529	59,956	2,427	22
23	Contingencies	0	0	0	3,561	0	0	0	0	3,561	5,000	1,439	23
24	Contract Services/Honorariums	0	6,757	4,830	15,419	1,300	3,564	1,573	0	33,443	28,840	(4,603)	24
25	Development, Recruit.- Train.	0	2,579	87	4,502	0	0	0	0	7,169	14,345	7,176	25
26	Dues/Fees/License/Permits	0	2,175	0	15,390	0	695	650	0	18,910	21,430	2,521	26
27	Equipment Expense	0	20,860	100	12,392	0	1,468	0	0	34,820	27,978	(6,842)	27
28	Food & Snacks	1,185	28,634	1,378	474	32	6,108	0	423	38,235	40,781	2,546	28
29	Insurance Expense												29
30	Building & Grounds	0	0	0	10,656	0	0	0	0	10,656	10,656	0	30
31	Liability Insurance	0	310	0	2,362	0	0	242	0	2,914	2,722	(192)	31
32	Insurance Expense	0	310	0	13,018	0	0	242	0	13,570	13,378	(192)	32
33	Meetings/Conferences												33
34	Conference - Lay	0	320	0	0	0	1,196	0	0	1,516	13,500	11,984	34
35	Conference - Staff	0	2,608	0	0	0	3,297	0	0	5,905	14,675	8,770	35
36	Total Meetings/Conferences	0	2,928	0	0	0	4,493	0	0	7,421	28,175	20,754	36
37	Miscellaneous Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	674	674	37
38	Misc. Funds Revenue Exp.	0	817	324	0	0	375	0	0	1,516	840	(676)	38
39	Office Supplies	0	318	0	2,025	0	34	0	0	2,377	3,350	973	39
40	Other Program Costs/Supplies												40
41	Activity Costs	1,800	1,419	4	0	(150)	3,378	9,089	3,989	19,529	31,608	12,079	41
42	Program Supplies	560	11,897	1,004	0	52	1,695	57	350	15,615	18,042	2,427	42
43	Supplies (Misc Fundraising)	0	3,753	1,032	0	0	1,498	0	0	6,284	12,100	5,816	43
44	Total Other Program Costs	2,360	17,072	2,041	3	(98)	6,571	9,146	4,339	41,434	61,750	20,316	44
45	Payroll Costs	0	328,000	10,925	25,848	0	63,220	7,117	0	435,110	566,053	130,943	45
46	Postage & Delivery	1,165	2,128	1,132	1,253	320	1,117	1,519	110	8,744	14,332	5,588	46
47	Printing & Reproduction	381	7,093	3,871	1,163	315	1,483	5,351	23	19,680	21,751	2,071	47
48	Professional Fees	0	0	0	5,300	0	0	0	0	5,300	5,500	200	48
49	Scholarship Awards												49
50	Fee Adjustments	0	10,524	0	0	0	0	0	0	10,524	10,600	76	50
51	Staff Discounts	0	24,536	264	64	0	0	0	0	24,864	18,580	(6,284)	51
52	Total Scholarship Awards	0	35,060	264	64	0	0	0	0	35,388	29,180	(6,208)	52
53	Telephone/Communications	0	576	0	5,019	0	1,088	58	0	6,741	8,116	1,375	53
54	Travel & Mileage												54
55	Bus/Airfare/Hotel	300	2,008	1,710	0	854	155	0	0	5,027	16,709	11,682	55
56	Employee Mileage	2	131	26	149	89	1,212	117	0	1,726	3,020	1,294	56
57	Field Trips	0	3,370	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,370	7,100	3,731	57
58	OverNights	0	4,980	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,980	5,000	20	58
59	Total Travel & Mileage	302	10,488	1,735	149	944	1,367	117	0	15,102	31,829	16,727	59
60	Utilities	0	1,749	0	26,278	0	0	0	0	28,027	31,100	3,073	60
61	Total Direct Expenses	7,185	488,818	26,944	26,944	2,813	91,987	25,773	4,894	829,396	1,031,883	202,487	61
62	Direct Surplus (Deficit)	409,251	90,210	(15,975)	67,907	(1,687)	(49,289)	(19,648)	5,818	332,548	212,508	(120,040)	62
63	INDIRECT EXPENSES	7,319	85,201	7,645	(50,080)	4,710	8,044	6,616	658	70,114	134,571	64,457	63
64	Capital Expenditures/Transfers	0	1,196	0	0	0	(263)	0	0	933	0	(933)	64
65	NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	401,931	3,812	(23,620)	(36,051)	(6,397)	(57,070)	(26,264)	5,160	261,501	77,937	(183,564)	65
66	2006 Net Budget	392,626	(45,936)	(11,705)	(84,120)	(18,309)	(104,013)	(56,133)	5,527	77,937			66
67	Budget Difference	(9,305)	(49,748)	11,915	(48,069)	(11,912)	(46,943)	(29,869)	367	(183,564)			67

KNOXVILLE JEWISH ALLIANCE, INC.					
Statement of Fund Activities					
Period Ending November 30, 2006					
FUNDS:	Revenues	Investment Revenues	Expenses	Net Gain (Loss)	FUND EQUITY
<b>Unrestricted</b>					
KJA Opportunity Fund	3,233	17,517	0	20,750	227,344
General Fund	1,134,890	9,537	900,443	261,501	799,853
<b>Total Unrestricted</b>	<b>1,138,123</b>	<b>27,054</b>	<b>900,443</b>	<b>282,251</b>	<b>1,027,197</b>
<b>Permanent:</b>					
B'Nai Tzedek Fund	4,143	53	0	4,195	4,195
David M. Blumberg Youth Leadership	0	987	0	987	12,664
William "Bill" Brody	0	864	0	864	17,727
Gordon Brown Youth Recreational	50	691	0	741	9,182
Abe Collins Adult and Cultural	0	1,933	0	1,933	24,759
Milton Collins Cultural	0	2,090	0	2,090	28,136
AJCC Endowment	1,650	21,749	24,952	(1,553)	318,326
Millie Gelber Immigrant	0	931	0	931	11,975
Max & Zelda Morrison Cultural	0	2,601	0	2,601	42,648
Allen Rosen Education	0	614	0	614	8,887
Sam & Esther Rosen Fr'shippers	0	2,473	0	2,473	43,620
Bernard S Rosenblatt	130	193	(6,378)	6,701	6,701
Siegel	0	3,719	1,180	2,539	46,368
Zionists of America	0	243	222	21	4,051
Ben & Pearl Zwick Cultural	0	1,055	0	1,055	13,557
<b>Total Permanent Restricted</b>	<b>5,973</b>	<b>40,193</b>	<b>19,975</b>	<b>26,190</b>	<b>592,450</b>
<b>Temporary:</b>					
Archives	0	3	263	(261)	0
Gordon Brown Athletic	0	86	5,714	(5,628)	0
Capital Reserve	6,621	395	14	7,002	11,764
Future Emergency	37,054	236	37,608	(318)	5,391
Alice Greenberg Early Childhood	0	108	0	108	5,215
JFS Social Services	500	134	394	240	3,389
Social Services	0	1,134	0	1,134	28,540
Temporary - Other	0	0	8,178	(8,178)	0
<b>Total Temporary Restricted</b>	<b>44,175</b>	<b>2,096</b>	<b>52,171</b>	<b>(5,900)</b>	<b>54,298</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,188,270</b>	<b>69,343</b>	<b>972,590</b>	<b>302,541</b>	<b>1,673,945</b>

## Education and Cultural Programs

**Debbie Richman, Vice President (Nov. 05 to Aug. 06)**

**KJA Adult and Cultural Arts Director  
Sandra Parsons**

### CULTURAL ARTS

**Yom HaShoah:** The program took place at 7:00 pm on Monday evening, April 24, 2006, at Temple Beth El, followed immediately by the Yom HaShoah memorial service. Music from the Jewish tradition and readings from Jewish texts set the backdrop for our focus on why Judaism requires that we oppose the genocide in Darfur.

More than 100 from the two congregations attended a very meaningful program.

There were materials and handouts available, including postcards to send to our representatives in Congress and to President Bush.

Our soloist, Ada Fine, accompanied by Lucas Richman for his arrangement of "The Last Butterfly" provided a very moving experience for the participants.

Committee: Manny Hertz, Rabbi Louis Zivic, Isadore Sauers, Rabbi Beth Schwartz, Gilya Schmidt, Rabbi Victor Rashkovsky, Rabbi Yossi Wilhelm, Marilyn Kallet, Debbie Richman

**IsraelFest/Yom Ha'Atzmaut:** A poolside party on May 21<sup>st</sup> was open to the community. The result was wonderful. Delicious Israeli food was only the first of many tastes of Israel that we experienced. Games that featured aspects of the key cities in Israel delighted the children and birthday cake decorated as an Israeli flag left everyone with a sweet taste for more.

The KJA and the community want to thank those who volunteered their time to make this event happen. Volunteers: Diane Cole, J.P. Dessel, Sue Frankenberg, Scott Hahn, Renee Hyatt, Ellen Kern, Monty Lewis, Lyle Koningsberg, Michael Messing, David, Ben, Bryna, and Rae Oleshansky, Cheri Pollack, Stephen Rosen, Ellen Schnoll, Melissa Schweitzer, Moshe and Caitlyn Shloush, Irving Somerville, Olivia Talman, and Marilyn Wohl

**Jewish Book Month:** The KJA provided a glimpse into the world of Jewish Literature on November 12, 2006 through Rebecca Kohn. Ms. Kohn presented her two works, "Seven Days to the Sea" and "The Gilded Chamber." Rebecca graduated from the University of Chicago where she majored in English literature, with a concentration in Victorian fiction and the Romantic Poets.

*Thursday November 16, 2006, 7:00 p.m. At: the Arnstein Jewish Community Center The KJA presented Dylan Schaffer. Dylan is the author of Life, Death & Bialys. Als drait zich arum broit un toit: It all comes down to bread and death --Yiddish proverb*

Schaffer . . . writes here about the complex relationships between fathers and sons with more delicacy than it takes to fold a croissant. His insightful and improbably humorous look at baking in the face of death is a spot-on depiction of the way our families — more than anyone else in the world — can cause us simultaneous pleasure and pain. - Forward (The Jewish Daily)



**On Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>** The Jewish Book Month Book Fair was held at Borders Books, Music & Café from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>. This year's vouchers provided both the purchaser and the KJA with 10%. Marilyn Kallet signed her newest work, "Last Love Poems of Paul Eluard,"

Jewish book Month Chair: Laurie Fisher

### **THE INSTITUTE FOR JEWISH STUDIES**

**Mini-CAJE:** Mini-CAJE is a regional conference for Jewish youth educators. The Knoxville Jewish Alliance, Heska Amuna Synagogue, and Temple Beth El work together with the mini-CAJE coordinator. Every year our youth educators gather at the AJCC to learn more about the teaching, about the subjects they each teach, about the children they teach, and about each other.

This year the KJA Mini-CAJE was privileged to present a program developed exclusively to meet the needs of Jewish educators in small and mid-sized Jewish communities in the south. "Living With Tolerance: Jewish Realities in the South" is scheduled for November 19, 2006 at the Arnstein Jewish Community Center.

The conference featuring an educational team from the regional anti-Defamation League Office working together with Knoxville educational specialists, taught strategies and techniques for teaching students to deal with intolerance, anti-Semitism, evangelical and cultural isolation. Participation from the Knoxville Jewish Educators enhanced and empowered our teachers, families and lay leaders to develop a sense of Jewish pride, acceptance for our selves, and tolerance for others.

*An automatic full scholarship for Jewish educators of the Knoxville Jewish Community was made possible through the generosity of Becker Family Fund of the Knoxville Jewish Community Family of Funds, and the Stanley, the Education Enrichment Fund built by members of Heska Amuna and Elise Levy Enrichment Fund of Temple Beth El.*

Committee: Carolyn Silver-Alford, Mini-CAJE, Chair; Nancy Becker and Marilyn Liberman, Co-Chairs, Institute for Jewish Studies; Rabbi Beth Schwartz, Rabbi Louis Zivic, Rabbi Yossi Wilhelm, Norma James; Deborah Roberts, Arnold Tew; Sandra Parsons

**Shabbaton: CANCELED** The planned presenter declined too close to the date of the event to find a suitable replacement.

**The Day of Learning:** On Sunday, August 20, 2006 the Knoxville Jewish Alliance Institute for Jewish Studies Day of Learning committee presented "Co-existence and Cultural Diversity: Answering the Hard Questions", featuring Jonathan Odell. The Caller Auditorium at the Arnstein Jewish Community Center was filled as evidence of the wide appeal of the program became more and more evident.

The multicultural audience of over 100 included members of the Knoxville Jewish Alliance, The Beck Cultural Exchange Center, Inc., and the Race Relations Center and clergy from various denominations. In his opening remarks, Mr. Odell made the comment that this was the most diverse group he had ever spoken to. He usually talks to either all White, or, all Black groups. The mixture in the religious preferences of the audience was also a welcome change.

Jonathan Odell was born and raised in Mississippi, growing up in the institutional segregation of a small town. In college he became an activist and sold the Ebony Pictorial History of Black America door to door in black neighborhoods across the south while the Klan tried to discourage him. He spent his business career as a leadership coach to Fortune 500 companies and now resides in Minnesota.

*Sponsored by The Natalie and Mitchell Robinson Community Enrichment Fund  
in cooperation with the Beck Cultural Exchange Center, Inc. and  
the Race Relations Center of East Tennessee*

Committee: Nancy Becker and Marilyn Liberman, co-chairs, Arnold Cohen, Marilyn Wohl, Gene Rosenberg, and Sandra Parsons, KJA Adult & Cultural Arts Director

***Catalogue of Adult Jewish Education*** The fall catalogue was replaced with the Fall 2006 KJA Programming Guide.

**Jewish Heritage Video Collection:** At his request all communication from the Motion Picture Licensing agent was forwarded to Scott B. Hahn.

***The KJA Lecture Series; (formerly the UT Jewish Faculty Lecture Series)*** has in years past celebrated the talent and diversity of Jewish faculty by offering informative, engaging talks, which could be easily understood by the general community. However, in 2006 our chair was unable to complete this task due to pressing business commitments.

In 2007 the community will again enjoy the opportunity to gather together in a learning environment. The chair, Peggy Littmann will contact the Jewish faculty and schedule the event for the last Monday of the months January through April.

Committee: Peggy Littmann, Chair

***Jewish Teens of East Tennessee*** – There was one spring program under the Institute for Jewish Studies umbrella. *Bears and Things That Are Counted* was the theme of a cookout at the home of Paul Erwin and Renee Hyatt in Townsend. The program on wildlife featured a speaker from the Appalachian Bear Center and Lou Gross who spoke about his animal conservation work in the Smokie's.

Committee: Peggy Littmann and Renee Hyatt

Fall programming and future programming has been reassigned to the new B'nei Tzedek Program director.

***Solidarity Gathering 2006:*** A solidarity gathering chaired by Marilyn Liberman was held on Monday July 24, 2006. The successful and spirited rally and follow up letter to the community raised money for Israel. In addition, several members of the community made contributions directly on the UJC online emergency donation website.

## **Facilities Management**

### **V.P. Administration: Jay Shuman**

**Director: Sandra Parsons**

The KJA has endeavored to keep the Arnstein Jewish Community Center in good repair by utilizing the services of a host of plumbers, electricians, locksmiths and other various other repair and service persons. These repairs are too numerous to list individually and were noted on a month by month basis in Board Reports.

Main changes include:

- ❑ A new classroom was added. The storage room between the two lower level locker rooms was converted into a beautiful classroom. As a result, there is a need to find additional storage for the facility.
- ❑ A storage shed was placed in the gym for preschool balls, bikes and more.
- ❑ New lightweight folding tables were obtained to give a better appearance for community events.
- ❑ The parking lot was resurfaced
- ❑ The parking lot lights were rewired under ground.
- ❑ A grease trap was added to our kitchen sink as required by the Knoxville Utility Board.

## Jewish Community Resources

Marilyn Wohl, Vice President

### Archives

**Barbara W Bernstein, Chair**

**Nicki Russler, Archivist**

**Gerri Tumblin, Archival Assistant through September, 2006**

Committee Members: Barbara Bernstein, Wendy Lowe Besmann, Pam Branton, Pessa Brody, Joani Leeds, Marilyn Liberman, Mary Ann Merrell, Lee Miller, Natalie Robinson, Evan Sturm, Mel Sturm, Marilyn Wohl

The Barbara Winick Bernstein Jewish Community Archives strives to collect materials related to the Knoxville and East Tennessee Jewish community to preserve them and make them accessible to future researchers (whether casual, academic or professional), interested in organizations, genealogy, or life of the Jewish community of Knoxville and surrounding areas.

During 2006, the Archivist, with the assistance of the Archival Assistant, completed the large phase of reconstructing the Finding Aid/Ledger begun in 2005 necessary to make records accessible, and continued fine-tuning and updating it as new materials were added. We also completed the creation of a new and improved system of organization for the biographical files, and arranged for the systematic collection of current organizational records, newsletters, and calendars. We made arrangements for converting audiotapes of interviews of Jewish Knoxvilleans made in the 1980's and 1990's to CDs as a means of extending their life. The Committee arranged for the restoration of art works donated by Mrs. Lalla B. Arnstein to the JCC in the 1930's, which will be hung in the Center. We continue to process clippings, photographs, and memorabilia received from members of the community. We regularly receive contributed photos depicting a piece of Knoxville Jewish history to the *Voice*, under the title of "The Way We Were." Thanks to a gift from Tony and Barbara Meyers, the Archives now has a computer and soon will have a scanner, which will allow the Archives to begin to scan photographs and the most fragile documents in its collection in 2007. The Committee is engaged in an ongoing and lively discussion in an attempt to define a collection policy which will determine the scope of the collection and function as a guide to help community members donate materials.

## Friendshippers

**Bernie Shorr, Chair**  
**Beth Heller, Program Director**

Committee Members: Hinda Duhan, Bunny and Allan Gerson, Madeline and Charles Mann, Mimi Pais, Faye Raymon, Eleanor and Bernie Shorr, Marilyn and Jerry Solomon, Laura Supman.

The Friendship program provides regular, on-going opportunities for active Jewish senior adults in the Knoxville area to socialize and participate in stimulating, cultural, educational and entertaining programs.

Specifically, during 2006:

- There were 13 Luncheon/Speaker programs with an average attendance of 47 participants. Luncheon program topics covered a broad spectrum of interests including: musical performances; holiday celebrations; three installments of our *Growing Up Jewish Around the World* series; local television and print celebrities, including Bill Landry of the Heartland Series and TV anchor Gene Patterson; a professional storyteller; a speaker from the Smoky Mountain National Park; UT Men's Basketball Coach Bruce Pearl; UT Faculty members; and a trip and personal tour of the *Living On* Exhibit of Tennessee Holocaust survivors and liberators. Many of the Friendship programs were facilitated by the Friendshippers, themselves.
- There were 12 meetings of the Friendship Book Group in 2006. The group continues to spark interest and several new members joined in 2006. Currently, there are 12 members who are highly committed and continue to meet monthly at the AJCC.
- The number of program participant contacts for 2006 increased 20% over 2005 (600 to 750).
- The average attendance per meal/speaker program increased 15% over 2005. (40-47)
- The number of individuals attending a Friendship program at least once increased 10% over 2005. (103-112)
- The Friendship program is continuously challenged by the limited accessibility of our building.
- Birthday greetings which entitle the bearer to a free meal and public recognition at a Friendship luncheon during the month of his/her birthday were mailed to each Friendship member who has signed the ongoing "birthday list".
- Established Mah Jong, Bridge and/or Canasta groups met at the AJCC to play immediately following Friendship luncheon programs several times during 2006. Members attended the Friendship program and then spent the afternoon playing at the AJCC.
- The Friendship Steering Committee met monthly and continues to be very effective in developing program ideas and addressing issues.

- A subcommittee of the Friendship Steering Committee took responsibility for decorating the gym for programs, making the atmosphere festive and welcoming for all participants and speakers.
- The Friendship Steering Committee and the Friendshipshippers in general were increasingly involved in generating ideas and helping to facilitate programs. An increase in a sense of personal commitment by the Friendshipshippers to the Friendshipshipper program was evident.
- The Friendshipshipper Phone Committee continued to provide personal contact by making phone calls about upcoming programs to approximately 15 Friendshipshippers before each program. In addition, the Program Director personally contacted 15-20 individuals before each program.
- Transportation for those individuals who do not drive was consistently provided by volunteers, most of whom were Friendshipshippers themselves. Providing this service is becoming increasingly difficult as the number requiring rides is increasing, and the number of drivers available is decreasing.
- The Friendshipshipper Program Director as well as the Friendshipshippers, themselves, actively welcomed newcomers to the group.
- The Friendshipshipper Program Director worked closely with the Director of Jewish Family Services, making referrals and assisting with the transition some Friendshipshippers face which leads them to require JFS services as a result of health or other issues.
- Friendshipshippers participated in multi-generational activities in 2006, as several Friendshipshippers visited preschool classrooms to read and share personal stories with the children.
- The Friendshipshippers successfully utilized the resources in the community by using volunteer speakers from within the Friendshipshipper community and the Jewish and greater Knoxville communities. This not only enables us to offer successful and well received programming, it provides much personal satisfaction for the Friendshipshipper guest speakers and enhances a sense of community.
- Program speakers from outside the Jewish community were also utilized.
- Friendshipshipper participants constitute a strong peer support network. They consistently offer support, in the form of personal contact, transportation, etc. to other Friendshipshippers facing difficulties.

The senior adults have always been and continue to be a vibrant, active and committed part of our Jewish community. This year has been successful, meaningful and enriching one for the Friendshipshippers. Participation continues to increase and the programs have become an important part of the participants' lives.

## **Jewish Family Services**

**Pat Rosenberg, Chair**  
**Nancy Britcher, MSW, Staff**

Jewish Family Services had a busy year. There were over 340 contacts with clients and over 270 contacts with local, state, community and federal agencies on behalf of clients. There were 44 new requests for service along with 12 individual counseling sessions and 2 Eldercare consultations. Case management and volunteer services were provided for 25 clients living in 9 different long term care facilities.

Programs included a Mitzvah Day program coordinated with the preschool children who visited older adults, and 4 holiday programs and full luncheons at assisted living facilities for Purim, Passover, Rosh Hashanah and Chanukah.

Educational programs included a session on Caring for Aging Parents and 2 sessions given at Heska Amuna on Aging Issue, one session for teens and one for adults. An orientation for camp counselors was provided and Mrs. Britcher continues to function as a consultant to the AJCC Preschool. She also participated in some of the Friendship programs and participated in a Chanukah program for Hillel at UT. JFS is also supervising a first year MSW social work student for the 2006-2007 academic year.

In the larger community, Mrs. Britcher provided an in-service training session for staff at Outlook Pointe, and facilitated a session at the Knox County Council on Aging's annual conference. She also provided 2 mental health educational programs, one to the Mental Health Alliance of East Tennessee and one to the TN state NAMI( National Alliance of Mentally Ill) conference.

Jewish Family Services continues to provide *Chai* bags of treats for volunteers visiting long term care residents and continues to provide Mitzvah Meals for those returning home after a hospital stay. Evan Sturm continues as Coordinator for Volunteer Services and this year our number of volunteers increased. We updated our JFS Brochure to include an insert about volunteer services and have planned for a special brochure highlighting our *Chai* Bags and Emergency Fund services. Jewish Family Services welcomes all community ideas as we strive to provide the highest quality of services to the entire Knoxville Jewish community.

## **B'nai Tzedek Teen Philanthropy Program**

**Dr. Jeff Becker, Chair**  
**Deborah Oleshansky, Director**

B'nai Tzedek Teen Philanthropy Program is a new program being administered by the Knoxville Jewish Alliance. The program is made possible through a grant from the Harold Grinspoon Foundation. The current director was hired in April 2006.

There are four primary objectives to the B'nai Tzedek Teen Philanthropy program:

- To help every Jewish teen in our community establish an endowment fund in his/her name

- To provide Jewish teens with skills and knowledge in the area of Jewish sources on giving, financial literacy, and modern philanthropy.
- To help Jewish teens establish relationships with Jewish organizations in our community and abroad
- To offer the opportunity to network with other Jewish teens locally and nationally.

Currently, twenty six local teens have established these philanthropic funds. The first fund holder meeting was held in October at the East Tennessee Foundation giving the teens an opportunity to learn about the connection between B'nai Tzedek, the Knoxville Jewish Community Family of Funds and ETF. The next meeting is scheduled for February and will give fund holders the opportunity to begin to learn about the non-profit organizations eligible for grant from their funds.

Programs related to B'nai Tzedek fall into four primary categories:

- Programs for B'nai Tzedek Fund Holders related to learning about Jewish philanthropy and grant making.
- Community service and advocacy programs for all interested local teens
- HeartAction program for 9<sup>th</sup> graders jointly administer by KJA, Heska Amuna Synagogue and Temple Beth El in which 9<sup>th</sup> graders do text study and visit residents at Outlook Pointe Retirement Community
- Camp Tikkun Olam summer program

In addition, the B'nai Tzedek Director is contracted to coordinate the BBYO Teen Connection program. These activities focus on engaging Jewish teens in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade only for social programs which include some informal Jewish education.

## **UT Hillel Advisory Committee**

**Dr. J.P. Dessel, Chair**  
**Deborah Oleshansky, Director**  
**Elyse Messing, Student President**

The Hillel program at University of Tennessee, Knoxville, continues to grow and evolve. Many new students have become involved on a regular basis this semester and there is an increased interest in programming and connection for Jewish students on campus. Several students plan to attend a national Hillel Conference in Washington in February, and several plan to participate in a Hillel Alternative Spring Break in March to help rebuild New Orleans. The director has been asked to staff a Hillel trip to Israel over Winter Break to rebuild areas in northern Israel damaged in the war last summer. Our growing interaction with national Hillel is a great asset to our local program.

Without a physical location on campus, we continue to use a variety of venues for programming. Starbucks at Hodges Library is our home for Tuesday morning Coffee Club and Wednesday evening planning sessions. Over the course of the fall semester, students asked for weekly Torah study and the Coffee Club now doubles as a Torah study group.

Wednesday evening meeting are being used to plan a large event for April, 2007. A group of students came up with an idea to build upon the relationship that has developed with Coach Bruce Pearl. They are planning a campus-wide three on three basketball tournament to be held in April. Coach Pearl has agreed to referee the final game, and UT



players will hopefully have a dunking contest during half time of the final game. The proceeds of the event will benefit the Interfaith Health Clinic. The working name of the event is Hillel Hoops for Health.

A group of students have been organizing weekly Shabbat dinners and we hope to develop a schedule of community hosts for spring semester. Requests for local hosts have been printed in the Temple Beth El "Times", Heska Amuna "HaShofar", and the KJA "Community VOICE".

We continue to reach out to other groups on campus to raise awareness of our program and to join resources for event planning. We supported the Muslim Student Association (MSA) on their Ramadan-Fast-A-Thon and shared dinner with them during the week of Sukkot. Currently we are working with MSA and the Campus Programming Council on a comedy event in March titled Standup for Peace.

We have also established a relationship with the Presbyterian Center which has proved to be very beneficial. We have used their house on Melrose, very central on campus, for Bagel Brunches and for our Chanukah dinner. Students from both the Presbyterian Student Center and MSA joined us to celebrate Chanukah.

The director is working with David Krueger, Chair, University of Memphis Hillel Advisory Board, to improve awareness about our Hillel program in Memphis and to find ways to work together to benefit the Jewish students of Tennessee. UT Hillel brochures have been sent to Memphis for local high school students, and information about our Hillel program will be included in the BBYO Convention this winter. Efforts are underway to plan a Tennessee Jewish student Shabbaton at Vanderbilt University. Also, one of our Hillel students has a sister that is President of Hillel at University of Georgia and we hope to have some of our students participate in a Shabbaton with UGA this spring.

## **Partnership 2000 (P2K)**

**Leslie Snow, Chair**  
**Deborah Oleshansky, Camp Tikkun Olam Director**

Our P2K program is part of a Southeast Consortium with Nashville, Jacksonville (FL), Pinellas County (FL), Lee and Charlotte County (FL), Augusta, GA and Charlotte, NC. We are partners with the Hadera-Eiron Region in Israel. The program is funded through our operating budget and through our allocation to UJC. A consortium governance committee reviews all project ideas and determines what specific projects will be implemented.

The primary P2K program here in Knoxville is Camp Tikkun Olam. Over the past several years we have hosted Israeli teens and adult leaders for two weeks during the summer and then our teens return to be hosted by them in Israel. In all it is a four week program. During this time the teens participate in a variety of community service projects both here and in Israel.

In November we began recruiting teens for Camp Tikkun Olam Summer 2007. We held parent/teen information sessions at both Temple Beth El and Heska Amuna Synagogue. Many teens and parents attended and there seems to be tremendous interest in the program for this summer. Interviews for teens and parents will begin on January 14, 2007. We hope to have a delegation of six local teens to host Israelis and then travel to Israel.

In summer, 2006, there were no local teens interested in traveling to Israel so the program was a bit different than in years past. Four Israeli teens came here with an adult leader and worked at the AJCC summer camp. They were hosted by local families: Anne and Bernard Bendriem, Amy and David Hull, Cheri and Rob Pollack, Mary and Mitch Weiss, and Nancy Young and Jeff Talman. The Israeli teens had prepared a variety of activities and lessons about Israel that were shared with the campers at Milton Collins Day Camp. It was a wonderful cultural exchange.

## Children and Youth Seth Schweitzer, Vice President

### Early Childhood Education

#### Camp K'ton Ton

Camp had a busy and very successful year, with 89 children enrolled, up from 72 children in 2005.

Prior to the start of camp, Milton Collins and Camp K'ton ton directors met regularly with Vice President of Children and Youth, Seth Schweitzer. Our goal in these meetings was to assess the quality of our camping program and to provide the safest, most fulfilling experience to our campers and their families. For Camp K'ton ton, these meetings resulted in increasing the ratios of staff and lifeguards supervising our camp swim times, as well as reworking our swim instruction program to provide better quality swim lessons to our youngest campers. Camp K'ton ton also revised its programming to provide fewer transitions for young campers in accordance with research on developmentally appropriate schedules for 1-5 year olds.

Campers participated in daily swim instruction, outdoor water play, and craft projects while learning about various themes such as ocean life, insects and music. Children enjoyed special programming such as a visit from the Knoxville fire department, an introduction to Gandoff the companion dog, a rain forest presentation with Zazu the parrot, an "Around the World" music presentation and weekly science sessions with botanist Virginia Small. Campers participated in weekly Shabbat celebrations.

#### AJCC Preschool

Rebekah Goemaat, Director

Students and staff returned to AJCC Preschool in January 2006 with an enrollment of 63 students. We ended the year in May with 64 students. AJCC Preschool resumed in August 2006 with 58 children enrolled. Our current enrollment is 64 students.

The Preschool core hours are 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. Monday through Friday, with extended Care programs daily from 7:30 to 9:00 A.M. and from 3:00 to 6:00 P.M. Vacation day programming is offered during the winter and spring break programs.

#### *Three Star Rating*

The preschool continues to retain its Three Star rating, the highest rating given by the Department of Human Services.

#### *Multi-cultural Emphasis*

We continue to attract a number of families from various ethnic backgrounds. This international and multicultural population is a selling point for our program and gives us a unique profile in the community.

#### *Jewish Identity*

We currently have 3 full-time Jewish teachers, 1 Jewish substitute teacher, and 2 Jewish aftercare staff teachers. Our percentage of Jewish families has risen this year from

around 30% last year to around 40% this year. This is in part due to the number of new Jewish families moving into the Knoxville area. This past year we enjoyed preschool family celebrations for Rosh Hashanah, Sukkot, Tu'B'Shevat, Purim and Chanukah as well as many Judaica activities in individual classrooms.

We have been pleased to have representatives from Temple Beth El, Heska Amuna Synagogue and Chabad House as regular Shabbat visitors in our classrooms for Shabbat. Their additions of stories, songs, and blessings have made Shabbat observance even more special for our children.

#### ***New Assistant Director***

One of the most beneficial changes in 2006 has been the designation of Terri Adkisson as Assistant Early Childhood Director. Terri continues to serve as a teacher in our Dalet class, but has taken on additional supervision responsibilities. She currently oversees our Aftercare program and assists the Early Childhood Director with the daily supervision of preschool and camp. Terri's twenty-five years of preschool experience as well as her commitment to high quality education for young children enable her to contribute stability and excellence to our preschool and camp programs.

#### ***Children with Special Needs***

Our staff made great strides this past year in understanding the special needs of individual children and modifying classroom approaches to make Jewish education accessible to children with special needs. These strides have benefited our school in many ways – by helping us adjust our teaching methods to the different learning styles of students, with or without special needs, by making us more creative and flexible and by encouraging us as a community to be more accepting of diversity. Our assistant director received training this past year through taking a college-level course on Integrating Children with Special Needs into Early Childhood Classrooms.

#### ***Parent Participation***

Twenty-three parents attended our first Parent Committee Meeting of the 2006-2007 year. Nine parents volunteered to be room parents. Room parents have coordinated parent volunteer efforts and donations in each classroom. Our goal is to increase parent volunteerism in all aspects of the preschool, but especially to provide parent presence in each preschool room on a regular basis to assist teachers and enhance the education of our children.

Eight Parent Committee members, including our Parent Committee chair, participated in a budget planning meeting to discuss priorities for the preschool both in the next year as well as in the next five years. Parents cited increased teacher salaries and benefits, foreign language instruction, Reggio Emilia approach implementation and arts instruction as goals for the preschool in the next five years.

#### ***Friendship Participation***

Senior adults Marilyn Presser, Stella Iroff, Bernie Shore and Joan Abrams visited our Dalet classroom this year to share Jewish traditions with our children. Our Dalet class also made a trip to Outlook Pointe Assisted Living to sing Purim songs for residents. This intergenerational connection is an important way to ensure that our children enter the future with a solid foundation from the past.

#### ***New Room Addition***

Through the combined efforts of our Board of Directors, the Parent Committee, parent donors, AJCC staff and community businesses, we have completed the renovation of a former storage room into an additional preschool room for toddlers, which has

enabled us to better serve the growing needs of our community. The opening of the new room was delayed from August until November of 2006, but despite these delays, is quickly filling with the faces of new children. The new room is the educational home of eight one-year old children and two preschool teachers.

### ***Fundraising***

Everyday Epicurean - \$350 in profits  
Sally Foster- \$2700 in profits (*up \$1000 from 2005*)  
Extracurricular activities - \$900  
Scholastic book fair - \$450 in cash profits (*up \$200 from 2005*); \$650 toward book purchases (*up \$250 from 2005*); many books donated to classrooms  
Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream Social - \$108.00  
Preschool Greeting Cards - \$250 estimated profit  
Pizza Fridays - \$500 estimated profit  
Challah Sponsorships - \$700 (*covered full cost of Challah for 2006*)  
Teacher Appreciation Donations - \$900  
In Kind Donations - \$3000  
Furniture Sponsorships - \$495  
NuMarket Ebay Sales - \$100  
Cash donations for new Aleph room - \$3000

### ***Reggio Emelia Approach***

At this time last year, we were just beginning to investigate the possibility of implementing Reggio Emelia approach, an arts-based, child-centered approach to excellence in early childhood education. During the past year, we have consulted with Dr. Mary Jane Moran of the University of Tennessee's Department of Child and Family Studies regarding this implementation.

In March of 2006, we sent the director, a teacher, and a parent to attend a Reggio Emelia conference at Spring Hollow Community School in Franklin, Tennessee. In May of 2006, we held a Reggio Emelia information/education night for our parents, teachers and board members. Parent excitement began to mount, and to date, we have received over \$2000 in-kind and cash donations toward the purchase of the technology and art supplies needed for the Reggio Emelia approach.

In August of 2006, we trained all staff on the material received from the Reggio Emelia conference at Spring Hollow School. We sent two teachers to the NAEYC Conference in November of 2006 to receive further training in Reggio Emelia philosophies and practices.

Dr. Peter Blair and the Seattle JCC preschool have also agreed to partner with us in our implementation. Our first Reggio Emelia Committee, chaired by Melissa Schweitzer, met in November 2006.

## **Extended Care**

One of our goals for last year was to increase the quality of our Extended Care programming. We have accomplished this through a dedicated extended care staff that plan daily art activities for children and provide more consistent nurturing and supervision. In addition, our Extended Care program has been enriched by community volunteer Melissa Schweitzer's "Children's Literature for the Very Young" weekly literacy program.

## **Looking Ahead to 2007**

As we continue to improve the quality of our program and to train staff in the Reggio Emilia practices, teacher retention will become of increasing concern. Reggio Emilia approach takes an estimated five years to implement. It is important that we provide a working environment and compensation that is conducive to teacher retention. Our goal is for our preschool to gain the reputation of offering the best working environment and best compensation available in our area to early childhood educators, thus allowing us to attract and retain the highest quality teachers for our children.

## **Milton Collins Day Camp 2006**

**Brian DeBolt, Camp Director**

**Sarah Price, Camp Director**

Milton Collins Day Camp continues to show steady growth and improvement. The summer program of 2006 saw an increase in the overall number of camper registrations, as well as consistent enrollment and participation over the ten themed weeks. Our quality programming and experienced, enthusiastic staff members brought back many returning families, while also attracting new participants through positive word of mouth. The summer also included reaccreditation by the American Camping Association by passing the visit with a perfect score.

Throughout the course of the summer, Milton Collins continued to offer the quality programming that has established us as “the most fun under the sun.” The campers were offered quality instruction by our specialists in art, drama, dance, sports, and the new “camp games.” This summer also saw a partnership between Milton Collins and the Cedar Bluff Racquet Club in order to provide the campers superior tennis lessons. In addition, one of the highlights of our program continues to be the daily swim instruction.

Each session offered a field trip and late-night/overnight programming. These included such excitement as a rafting trip, tubing, a Smokies baseball game, the Women’s Basketball Hall of Fame, a tour of historical sites in downtown Knoxville, and much more. Our extended days included a parents’ night, the “Amazing Race” that was facilitated by our teen group, a dance party, sports tournaments, the Camp Finale, and various other themed activities.

Each week also offered a special program and elective opportunities that corresponded to the theme. Examples included a visit from the zoo, the portable climbing wall, and a giant inflatable obstacle course. The campers were also extraordinarily delighted by a visit from Tennessee men’s basketball coach, Bruce Pearl. Coach Pearl gave a motivational talk followed by basketball drills led by assistant coaches and players. The counselors worked diligently to plan electives that included traditional camper favorites as well as inventive, fun, and educational programs.

We would like to thank the executive committee, parents, and all our supporters for their cooperation. The work of many has enabled Milton Collins Day Camp to be a continued success. The camp is looking forward to the coming season and will work with all stakeholders in order to establish improvements to the registration procedures and other aspects of the programming.

## **Public Relations**

**Jane Cohen, Vice President**

Communication is the thread that binds my responsibilities as Vice President of Public Relations. Through our local Jewish Community Newspaper, "The Voice," our website [www.jewishknoxville.org](http://www.jewishknoxville.org), the Community Relations Committee, Missions to Israel, the American/Israel Chamber of Commerce South East Division, media relations and our Annual Meeting, able volunteers and staff members spread the news and good will of the Knoxville Jewish Alliance both near and far. Last year's readers survey of a random sample of "VOICE" readers plus this year's board's input in developing our new website have helped us make improvements. I hope these efforts will help us grow a more dynamic communication network for our community.

Here are a few highlights from my areas of responsibility.

### **Website, [JEWISHKNOXVILLE.ORG](http://JEWISHKNOXVILLE.ORG)**

**Jane Cohen, Chair**  
**Bella Budik, Webmaster**

After a turbulent year of changes resulting in a lack of staff to maintain our website, we recently put all our efforts into converting our old website to the United Jewish Communities web hosting service (UJCWEB). This took a considerable amount of time and the advanced web skills of our webmaster, Bella Budik and myself. In addition to improved up to date information and articles about our local KJA programs and activities, the new site includes access to subscription news sources for national, international news sources (Israeli, World Jewry, etc.), Jewish culture, religious and human interest feature articles, as well as a new online calendar. We now offer secure ONLINE donations to the KJA campaign and KJA funds. We expect to provide easily accessible online registration forms for Preschool, camp and swim team in an effort to improve customer interest and satisfaction. With this new service and its user friendly maintenance interface, we plan to distribute the responsibility of maintaining various program web pages to the committee chairs who can keep the latest information online as well as up-to-date photos and reviews of events making our website a useful tool for the whole community. We hope local business and service professionals will utilize our web presence to advertise to the local and world community of Internet users to help support KJA and our website at the same time. Contact us today at [kja@jewishknoxville.org](mailto:kja@jewishknoxville.org) to set up your personalized ad or sponsorship.

### **Publications Committee**

**Eleanor Shorr, Chair**  
**Joyce York, Editor**

As Committee Chairman, I am very pleased and happy to announce that Faye Raymon, a new resident of Knoxville, has joined our committee. Faye has come to us from Florida, by way of Colorado and Long Island and, incidentally, is the mother of Beth Heller. So you can tell she has excellent credentials. Faye will be assisting Joyce York, Editor of the Voice, covering stories and writing articles of interest.

Joyce, our Editor, has done a remarkable job of producing an interesting, viable newsletter. Eight issues were mailed to 730 households. In addition, copies were distributed to Heska Amuna Synagogue, Temple Beth El, Chabad, and the Oak Ridge Congregation. These issues included current news of the local Jewish community, messages from Alliance officers, lifecycle events such as births, marriages and bar and bat mitzvahs as well as other articles of general interest.

Again, the High Holiday and Passover Greetings were the source of Voice advertising revenues with a few local businesses who also participated. Efforts to hire a U.T. student or a part-time person to sell advertising space have not been successful due to our limited circulation. However, publishing the Voice is one of great service to our small Jewish community. Our readers enjoy the feeling of belonging, of being informed, and having a "Voice" to bind all of us together.

As Chairman of the Publications Committee, I cannot extol the virtues of Joyce York as Editor enough. Joyce is an extremely dedicated staff member. Her published issues reflect a skill in layout, headline writing, and thoughtful articles and photographs. She is bringing to the community a commitment of a true "Voice" in a manageable time frame, especially if deadlines and commitments are adhered to faithfully.

It is a rewarding experience serving as Chair of the Publications Committee. My heartfelt thanks to Joyce York, Editor, Jane Cohen, KJA Vice President for Public Relations and to the Board of the KJA for their cooperation in enabling the Voice to be a strong tool in communicating to the Jewish community.

## **Community Relations Committee**

### **Arnold Cohen, Chair**

The work of the Community Relations Committee for 2006 centered almost exclusively on the Knox County Schools policies pertaining to religious expression and harassment, bullying and intimidation. In substantial measure because of the collaborative work of the CRC the Knox County School Board adopted policies that are better designed to protect students than had been the case previously. The KCS Board's policies, however, depend heavily upon students and parents for effective implementation. Read on if you are interested as to how and why.

We have a story to tell of how individuals and collaborative efforts can make a positive difference. At the opening meeting of CRC for 2006 Leslie Snow recounted incidents that had occurred in the school attended by her children, those incidents being expressions of anti-Semitism. After Committee discussion it was thought that a program for parents of Jewish students would be appropriate. It was thought that the program should discuss how students and parents might cope with such incidents and with other incidents of religious discrimination and offensive behavior. A subcommittee of Leslie Snow, Dr. Bernie Rosenblatt, and Arnold Cohen was detailed to plan a program.

During the course of the planning Leslie said that a program itself did not satisfy her need for action. She asked whether it would be counter to the CRC's efforts if she wrote a letter. She was encouraged to write. Leslie wrote a careful and articulate letter addressed to the Chair of the School Board, Mayor Ragsdale, and others. The letter became widely disseminated. It caught the attention and interest of Mayor Ragsdale and the School Board. It stirred a number of people to inquire and to demand action.



There came an announcement that the KCS Board would consider a harassment, bullying, and intimidation policy at a workshop on April 17, 2006. Leslie was invited to speak as was Adrienne Dessel who had worked with Board member Indya Kincannon in drafting proposed policy on the harassment type issues. Leslie asked to consult with CRC and KJA, and a lunch meeting was held at Regas Restaurant.

As a result Arnold Cohen asked the Race Relations Center of East Tennessee to participate. At the April 17 workshop Leslie, Adrienne, and Sharon Hannum, President of the Race Relations Center of East Tennessee, presented views.

Board member Kincannon submitted her proposed policies. These policies were drafted in a proactive manner with a view toward training teachers and administrators and with a view toward prevention of incidents. In this context it should be recognized that the Board, about a year previously, had adopted a policy which was a reactive policy dealing with incidents as they occur.

The Board adopted a policy on harassment, bullying, and intimidation at its July Board meeting. That policy is available to the public by calling Ms. Myers, the Board's secretary, at 594-1630, or by going on-line at Knox County Schools, click on Administration, click on Board of Education, and click on Policy Manual. Then go to JCAD and JCADA..

Shortly after the April 17 workshop, the Board took under consideration a proposed policy by Superintendent Lindsey relating to religious expression. The draft presented by the Superintendent and passed on first reading by the Board was provocative. As a result members of the Islamic community and the CRC began new dialogue relating to common interests and concern that the proposed policy would promote oppression and proselytizing in the schools. It should be remembered that Dorothy Zwayyad, a Muslim mother of students in the public school system, had previously approached CRC to elicit help on similar concerns. Although little had come of the initial meeting, the relationships established permitted an immediate framework for discussing mutual concerns. A meeting was held which included Rabbi Zivic, Norma James, and Mrs. Zwayyad, other members of the Muslim and Hindu communities, and the Chair of CRC. From this meeting developed a coalition of interested community members that included people from Muslim, Jewish, Hindu, Baha'I, Catholic, Protestant, Christian, Unitarian, and possibly other belief systems.

The close relationship between the proposed policy on harassment, bullying, and intimidation with the proposed policy on religious expression was readily apparent. The coalition came together to express a consensus of views on both. Among the individuals who spoke, including those mentioned above, are Carolyn Silver-Alford, Mary Linda Schwarzbart, Rabbi Louis Zivic, and Arnold Cohen along with representatives of the Muslim and Christian communities. KCS workshops and Board meetings were heavily attended by KJA leadership along with other members and leadership of the Jewish, Muslim, Christian, and Unitarian communities and possibly others.

The religious expression policy had been proposed in two parts. The first part was amended by then Board member Karen Carson (who later became Chair of the Board) using almost verbatim materials suggested by Arnold Cohen within email input by the coalition. Thanks to email all the policies and proposed revisions were widely disseminated and available for review by a large number of interested people.

The second part of the policy was very controversial. Ultimately it was either tabled or removed from consideration at this time. Although it could arise again in the future, there is no indication of such an occurrence at this time.

So where does this leave the community?

The policies relating to religious expression can likewise be accessed from the Secretary to the Board or on-line in the same Policy Manual under KKCA, KKCB, and KKCC (KKCD was the portion which was not adopted and can be found by interested persons in the published Minutes of the Board searching in July, August, September, and October).

An important step toward making these policies effective was undertaken by the Mini-CAJE which was held at the JCC on November 19, 2006. At that program a representative of the Anti-Defamation League addressed interested teachers and parents, and community members.

The Chair of CRC believes that the Mini-CAJE/ADL presentation obviates the need for CRC to do a separate program as originally contemplated at the beginning of 2006. However, that question can be reviewed and is open to discussion. Most important is the question of how to realize the benefits of the policies that were adopted. They are not self implementing. Instead they require students and parents to initiate action and to follow the procedural rules for making complaints and seeing that the KCS addresses them appropriately. To do so students and parents should familiarize themselves with the policies and the procedures for implementations that is spelled out in them. There may be other KCS policies that are pertinent to a given situation, and those policies are available in the Policy Manual. Please note there is also a Procedures Manual available on-line with a click or two just below the Policy Manual link.

It cannot be stressed enough that these policies and procedures require parents and students to be vigilant if they are to protect their rights. It is the same philosophy that underlies the effectiveness of our national democracy.

One independent effort that is presently being made is the Safe Schools Initiative chaired by Adrienne Dessel. Interested individuals might contact her for further information.

Possibly the most disturbing feature of this past year's efforts and the Mini-CAJE/ADL presentation on this issue was the relative paucity of participation by parents of students. This same phenomenon has been mentioned all year. Except for a very few parents willing to step up (Leslie Snow and Carolyn Silver-Alford in the Jewish community) there seems to have been very few parents of students who expressed concern or who have shown up. This phenomenon has been interpreted different ways. Maybe there is not really a problem as some have suggested. Or, maybe parents and students are afraid. If the latter; then they will be punished for their fears. It calls to mind President Roosevelt's statement that "we have nothing to fear but fear itself." If parents and students are unwilling to assert their rights, then they will most certainly lose their rights.

CRC has done its job. CRC does not have the power to help individuals who are abused unless those individuals have the courage to help themselves.

Thank you to the following individuals who have served on the CRC this past year (and I apologize if I have omitted a name): Dr. Steve Krauss (also president of East Tennessee Interfaith Alliance); Shelley Mangold; Rabbi Louis Zivic; Rabbi Beth Schwartz; Mary Linda Schwarzbart; Marilyn Wohl; Larry Washington; Leslie Snow; Ellen Kern; Raeus Cannon; Gene Rosenberg (who continues to teach the Traveling Trunk on behalf of the Hate Crimes Working Group); Howard Blum; Dr. Bernard Rosenblatt. Also thanks to President Ellen Schnoll and the KJA Executive Committee for their support.

Individuals who wish to serve on CRC should send an email to Arnold Cohen <[agc@leibowitz-cohen.com](mailto:agc@leibowitz-cohen.com)> stating their interest, why they are interested, and relevant activities and affiliations in the community. Or send a fax to 637-9276 or a letter.

## **MISSIONS**

**Marcia Katz, Committee Chair (November-March, 2006)**

### **Knoxville Jewish Alliance Mission Trip to Israel Report**

Annette Winston

We departed on March 16, and arrived at Ben Gurion airport on the morning of the 17<sup>th</sup>. Our travel was relatively painless, in that we had only to get to Newark and then had a direct flight. Our tour began with a stop at Mt. Scopus to take in its beautiful view of Jerusalem. Here we said our first blessing, the Shehecheyanu, which thanks God for sustaining us to see this moment in our lives. It would be the first of many blessing son this trip. There were so many places to visit, and only to days. Necessity may have resulted in short visits, but they were no less inspiring. After our first day in Jerusalem, we awoke on Saturday morning and began our visit on a somber note, in memory of those lost in the Holocaust. The new Yad Vashem, designed by Moshe Safdie needs to be studied, yet the time we spent was sufficient to invoke a strong emotional response. Its design culminates in the visitor looking out over the hills of Jerusalem, the hope for the future of the Jewish people.

Next on the agenda was a visit to the Museum of the Diaspora, where the guide assigned to our group gave an impressive view of the 2,500 year history of the Diaspora. The informative six-point thesis on why the Jews have survived these thousands of years was expertly presented: family, community, memory, faith, culture, dreams.

What would a trip with our Jewish friends be without a little intellectual stimulation? On Monday, March 20, we visited the Weizmann Institute of Science, where our own Jeff Becker did his postgraduate work, and where his mentor was Efraim Katzir, the fourth president of Israel. Dr. Katzir met with us and provided a political and personal overview of Israel. His personal history in Israel dates to 1925 (he was 9 at the time) and includes the tragic loss of his brother, Aharon, in the Lod airport massacre in 1972. Interestingly, Katzir was the first Israeli named to the United States National Academy of Sciences. This was one of the highlights of our trip.

Also, what would a Jewish Alliance trip be without some social social action, or tikkun olam? After lunch at Kibbutz Yad Modechai, we were off to Be'er Sheva, where we visited the Ethiopian National Project school for unsettled Ethiopian Jews. We visited with students in the classroom and had an overview of the issues that must be overcome for these families. We also visited their tiny community center and talked to their teens about the challenges in the community. Feast in a Bedouin tent. Did I mention this trip was full of new experiences for those who had been here before? Sitting low, eating lots of courses, strong tea, coffee beans roasted, ground and served on the spot, and music provided by food, coffee grinder and voices were all part of this experience. Our traditionally dressed Bedouin host also happened to be a Ph.D. candidate at Hebrew University. Not everything is what it seems here!

Our fifth day included a visit to Masada and the Ein Gedi nature preserve, which put us at a Dead Sea hotel for a couple of nights. Schoolchildren visiting the Ein Gedi were drenching themselves in the waterfalls, and those of us who kept (mostly) dry were

reveling in the wildlife including the ibex, the hyrax, and many different species of birds. The hike was mild and manageable for all but the injured on our trip.

Often one thinks of group touring as too much boarding and unboarding a bus, and this trip certainly had plenty of that. However, the rides in between were spectacular. Driving past date palm groves as we left the Dead Sea, and looking out over the Dead Sea and watching for big blocks of salt on the shores, or ibexes along the roadside made the boarding and unboarding disappear from memory by the end of our trip.

Our next stop was Be'it She'an in the Jordan Valley, and an important archeological site, said to contain 15 separate occupational layers, meaning that 15 different populations called this place their home over the centuries. The large amphitheater yielded impressive acoustics from the stage and seated 7,000. The original city dated to 500 B.C.E. We traveled along the boarder between Israel and Jordan as we moved up to Mt. Gilboa, home of the world's only black iris. Here is where King Saul and his sons died fighting the Philistines. Their bodies were taken and hung on the walls in Be'it She'an. Breathtaking views and picture-taking tourists were the order of the day here. Later, we looked out over the Sea of Galilee from the Mount of Beatitudes, and thought how this day would be remembered as one in which we enjoyed the beauty of the country. The last thing we did before dinner in Tiberias was visit the grave of Maimonides. From the bus, I was noting the number of different shorebirds, some of which I could actually identify. Tiberias is a beautiful city on the shores of Kinneret (the Sea of Galilee).

Early morning, Day Seven, several of us crammed into the back of each jeep as we ascended the Golan Heights. I happened to be in the last jeep with a somewhat slaphappy driver, who kept stopping and picking wildflowers, including thistle, for us to eat. It was on this drive up to the Golan Heights that I got my porcupine quills, because he couldn't drive by those without stopping to pick them up and give one to each of us. They now brighten a dried-flower arrangement on my dining room table.

I also felt compelled to tell Israeli security about them before I boarded the plane! Standing on a Syrian bunker, a lifelong resident of the Golan gave us the history of his home. Stories of miracles abound in this land, and this man's life alone, there were many.

My favorite place in all the land of Israel is Tsfat, the place from which it is said the Messiah will come on his way to Jerusalem. The artist community here includes, sculptors, painters, weavings, ceramists, jewelers, and every other kind of medium you can name. The views from the city include Hebron and Lebanon to the north, the Golan, Mt. Meron and the Amud Valley to the west, and Tiberias and the Kinneret to the east. This was our shop 'til you drop location, and many of your fellow Knoxvilleans now adorn their walls and tabletops with items bought in Tsfat. Dinner was at the home of Genine and Chef Ronen Bar El, with entertainment by Simply Tsfat, an extremely lively Chasidic klezmer band. We ate and danced our way to total exhaustion before returning to our second night at the hotel at Kibbutz Lavi.

We end our trip in Jerusalem, but on our way there for our second Shabbat in that city, we stop in Haifa and visit the Baha'i Gardens. The view from Stella Maris spreads the gardens beneath you as you look out over the port of Haifa. Three submarines were in port, and the expansive Mediterranean coast stretched out below. Our next stop was Givat Olga, our Knoxville Jewish community's sister region for Partnership 2000. Bernie Rosenblatt has rock-star status here. Ted and Wendy Besmann posed next to daughter Anna's sculpture, build with the rest of the members of her class on their visit to the region. Seeing the students we support and visiting the graduates gave those who work in the program great nachas.

Shabbat in Jerusalem – praying on Shabbat in Jerusalem. Attending services in Jerusalem on Shabbat. All of these experiences are so incredibly soulful that it seems trite to try and describe them. Most of us spent our last two days in Jerusalem on a walking tour, followed by shopping on Ben Yehuda after sundown, again until we dropped. On our last day, we had breakfast with Reuvan Hazan, a political science professor at Hebrew University, who gave us an overview of Israeli government that had most of us talking like experts by the time he finished training us. We then visited the Lifeline for the Old, a handcrafts workshop for the elderly, where retired Israeli citizens have a job creating handcrafts that are sold to the public. While there, our group was arranged by a retired photojournalist who came out and started taking pictures. Lifeline is a project of the Jewish Agency for Israel.

Such longing for home, yet longing to stay. It is difficult to leave Israel, no matter how much you may miss those you left at home. Every day a happy memory has popped into my mind's eye. I want to go back. I was apprehensive before I left and felt silly for it once there. Go. It really is NOT throwing caution to the wind. Your tour guides will make sure of that.

## Human Resource Development

### **Ellen Kern, Vice President**

The Vice President Human Resource Development is responsible for the areas of Leadership Development, AJCC Membership & Newcomers or New Connections and the KJA Women's Network.

#### Leadership: Jewish Knoxville

A new Leadership Class is developed every two years. We'll be gathering a committee together in January 2007 for the next Leadership: Jewish Knoxville Class of 2008. Last year's Class of 2006 successfully graduated 16 leaders. Some final class comments were:

"....getting a group of folks together in the community is what helps build ties and allows people to feel comfortable in getting involved. Those involved feel part of the community..." Melissa Miller Feinbaum

"....the program allowed me to meet some people I otherwise may not have met....a community such as ours faces demographic and economic challenges requiring strong leadership and direction." Howard Pollock

"The program was informative and fun." Mary Evars Goan

"... very meaningful to interact with Jewish community." Wilma Weinstein

"..... happy to meet new people and learned a lot about local, regional and national Jewish communities." Amy Fulton Stout

"...important to have class meet at the three area congregations (including) JCOR." Michael Messing

The purpose of Leadership: Jewish Knoxville is to identify, recruit, educate and inspire new and emerging Jewish leaders within the Knoxville Jewish community. We seek adults who may have served on a committee or held an office in one or more of Knoxville's Jewish organizations. Each participant is asked to actively attend all programs, as well as to assume a Leadership position within our Jewish community for a two-year period after graduating from the course. In addition, each class 'graduate' may choose to attend a regional or national leadership conference, with KJA covering the registration fees. Some of the conferences include the Annual General Assembly, Regional United Jewish Communities Conference, JCCA Biennial, etc. or a comparable amount applied to an Israel trip. Several Class of 2006 graduates have already expressed interest in attending GA 2007 to be held in Nashville. Some personal benefits are:

- Learn about Knoxville Jewish Community, as well as World Jewry
- Improve your Leadership Skills in an Interactive learning environment
- Team up with others committed to a vibrant Jewish Community

#### KJA Women's Network

The Women's Network welcomes women of all ages to meet and connect with other Jewish Women, with no membership required. Our current Chairperson is Rosalie Nagler

with the 2006-07 planning committee consisting of Anne Greenbaum, Mindy Greitzer, Miriam Esther Wilhelm, Angie Anderson, Gale Shafkind, Peggy Littmann, Amy Fulton-Stout, Charlotte Hart, Wilma Weinstein, Alesa Rottersman, Shirley Sturm. Our first program in 2007 will be a community Rosh Hodesh. All Jewish women's organizations, including the three sisterhoods, Hadassah, Chabad Women's Circle are welcome and encouraged to join us on Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon to celebrate Rosh Hodesh at the AJCC. Our Spring plans call for a Women & Healthcare Panel held at EarthFare.

#### AJCC Membership & New Connections

A 10% dues increase was approved and put smoothly in place, with a great deal of finesse by Ed Hunter early in 2006. Fortunately, there have been very few concerns with the modest increase. There have been more than 25 new member families join to date this year. AJCC Membership & New Connections Committee is in the process of being formed this month. Please contact Ellen Kern at [ellenkern@comcast.net](mailto:ellenkern@comcast.net), if you'd like to participate in the Membership & New Connections committee.



## Annual Report

Ensuring the future of our Jewish community

**Total KJCFF Assets on October 31, 2006: \$ 1,793,589.85**

### KNOXVILLE JEWISH COMMUNITY FAMILY OF FUNDS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mary Linda Schwarzbart, *President*

Pace Robinson, *Vice President*

Richard Jacobstein,  
*Secretary/Treasurer*

Jeff Becker

Bernard Bernstein

Arnold Cohen

Bobby Goodfriend

Scott Hahn

Herb Jacobs

Mary Beth Leibowitz

Harold Markman

Alexandra Rosen

Mel Sturm

### DID YOU KNOW?

KJCFF enjoyed a **13% growth rate** in the previous 36 months.

A new fund may be created with a **\$5,000** contribution.

**KJCFF BOARD:** Officers elected at the May 26, 2005 meeting of the Knoxville Jewish Community Family of Funds Board continued to serve the Knoxville Jewish Community Family of Funds. Marilyn Liberman completed her term as a representative of the Knoxville Jewish Alliance and Mel Sturm was elected to that position. The board and fund holders thank Marilyn Liberman for her participation on the board.

**NEW FUNDS:** The KJCFF is pleased to announce the following new funds were created in 2006 and thanks the generous donors who have made them possible:

- Sylvia Greenberg Fund
- B'nai Tzedek Legacy Fund
- William "Bill" Brody Fund
- Dr. Bernard S. Rosenblatt Fund
- Rosenthal Environment Fund, a Heska Amuna Designated Fund



**GRANTS MADE:** The following grants were made in 2006 [year to date]:

<b>FUND</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>FOR</b>
AJCC Endowment Fund	17,000	Parking lot and electrical improvements
Jeff & Nancy Becker Community Enrichment Fund	2,400	To the KJA in support of the 2005 and 2006 Mini-CAJE programs
Jeff & Nancy Becker Community Enrichment Fund	5,312	To provide the match for 25 new B'nai Tzedek funds
Bernard E. & Barbara W. Bernstein Charitable Fund	2,000	To the KJA in support of the Archives of the Jewish Community of East Tennessee
Heska Amuna Educators Supplement Fund	\$20,000	Heska Amuna Synagogue Educators
Zelda & Max Morrison Cultural Enrichment Fund	750	To the KJA in support of the Women's Business Network program
Ted & Dolly Reback Knoxville Youth Fund	3,000	To support the 2005 BBYO Regional Convention held in Knoxville
Natalie And Mitchell Robinson Community Enrichment Fund	\$499	To the KJA in support of 2006 Institute for Jewish Studies Day of Learning
Sam and Esther Rosen Friendshippers Fund	1,000	To the KJA in support of the Friendshippers program
Miles & Zelda Siegel Fund for Knoxville's Jewish Elderly	1,125	To the KJA Jewish Family Service Committee to address emergency needs of a Jewish community member
Zionist Organization Fund	222	To purchase JNF tree certificates for B'nai Mitzvahs
Unrestricted Fund	2,000	East Tennessee Foundation 20 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration
<b>Total grants – year to date</b>	<b>\$55,308</b>	<b>These funds provide important services and programs for our community.</b>

**These thirty funds comprise the Knoxville Jewish Community Family of Funds**

<p><b>KNOXVILLE JEWISH ALLIANCE FUNDS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alliance Opportunity Fund</li> <li>• Arnstein Jewish Community Center Endowment Fund</li> <li>• David Blumberg Youth Leadership Award Fund</li> <li>• B'nai Tzedek Legacy Fund</li> <li>• William "Bill" Brody Fund</li> <li>• Gordon Brown Youth Recreation Fund</li> <li>• Abe Collins Cultural Fund</li> <li>• Milton Collins Knoxville Jewish Alliance Fund</li> <li>• Sam &amp; Millie Gelber Fund for Jewish Immigrants</li> <li>• Jewish Family Service Fund</li> <li>• Zelda &amp; Max Morrison Cultural Enrichment Fund</li> <li>• Allen Rosen Education Fund</li> <li>• Sam &amp; Esther Rosen Community Enrichment AJCC Fund</li> <li>• Sam &amp; Esther Rosen Community Enrichment Federation Fund</li> <li>• Sam &amp; Esther Rosen Friend-Shippers Club Fund</li> <li>• Dr. Bernard S. Rosenblatt Fund</li> <li>• Miles &amp; Zelda Siegel Fund for Knoxville's Jewish Elderly</li> <li>• Zionist Organization Fund</li> <li>• Ben &amp; Pearl Zwick Fund</li> </ul>	<p><b>HESKA AMUNA SYNAGOGUE FUNDS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heska Amuna Educators Supplement Fund</li> <li>• Sam &amp; Esther Rosen Community Enrichment Synagogue Fund</li> <li>• Rosenthal Environment Fund</li> <li>• Bradley Sturm Memorial Fund</li> </ul> <p><b>JEWISH CONGREGATION OF OAK RIDGE FUND</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Frances Sturm Cultural Fund of the Jewish Congregation of Oak Ridge</li> </ul> <p><b>KNOXVILLE JEWISH COMMUNITY FAMILY OF FUNDS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jeff &amp; Nancy Becker Community Enrichment Fund</li> <li>• Bernard E. &amp; Barbara W. Bernstein Charitable Fund</li> <li>• Sylvia Greenberg Family Fund</li> <li>• David and Deborah Oleshansky Fund</li> <li>• Ted &amp; Dolly Reback Knoxville Youth Fund</li> <li>• Natalie &amp; Mitchell Robinson Community Enrichment Fund</li> </ul> <p>Contact <b>Mary Linda Schwarzbart</b>, President, the KJA/KJCFF <b>Executive Director</b>, <b>Susan Contente</b>, or any member of the <b>KJCFF Board of Directors</b> to learn more about the opportunities available to you as you create your philanthropic legacy to our community.</p>
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**MAJOR GIFTS:** The KJCFF offers permanence and the opportunity to teach younger family members how to give. Donors' wishes can continue far into the future and donors can involve children and grandchildren to help carry on the charitable work.

**BEQUESTS:** By remembering the Knoxville Jewish Alliance in your will or naming KJA as a beneficiary of your life insurance, living trust or qualified retirement plan, you reach past your lifetime and create a legacy of safety for future generations.

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE KNOXVILLE JEWISH COMMUNITY FAMILY OF FUNDS** thanks the Knoxville Jewish Community, the staff of the Knoxville Jewish Alliance and the East Tennessee Foundation (ETF) for their support and encouragement. The KJCFF encourages you to help ensure the healthy future of

our Knoxville Jewish community by including a commitment to the KJCFF in your financial and estate planning.

**PROFESSIONAL MANAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY:** Our assets are managed by professional money managers and monitored by the ETF Investment Committee. An independent audit provides annual accounting of all funds and practices

**AS WE GROW:**

The KJCFF is pleased to announce we have contracted with **Susan Contente** to assist the KJCFF Board. With significant experience in donor development and administration, Susan provides important professional support for the KJCFF as our foundation continues to mature and grow. Susan is a member of Heska Amuna Synagogue, former co-president of Heska Amuna Sisterhood and is the incoming president for the Smoky Mountain Association of Professional Fundraisers. Susan is most proud, however, of her position as mother of her twins, Stella and Aaron, who recently turned 1 ½ and are enjoying saying “no!” We welcome Susan to the Knoxville Jewish Community Family of Funds and feel fortunate to have her join us.

Thanks to the hard work of **Jane Cohen** and **Bella Budik**, the KJCFF web pages, part of the KJA web site, are expanding and improving.

**PLANT FOR YOUR DESCENDENTS:** One day as Honi was walking along he saw a man planting a carob tree. Honi asked him "how many years until it will bear fruit? The man answered "not for seventy years". Honi asked, "do you really believe you'll live another seventy years? The man answered, " I found this world provided with carob trees, and as my ancestors planted them for me, **so I too plant them for my descendants"**

The **BBYO 2005 Regional Convention**, held in Knoxville last December, was the recipient of a \$3,000 grant from the **Ted & Dolly Reback Knoxville Youth Fund**.



A Celebration of the Knoxville Jewish Community Family of Funds was held at the home of **Elise and Herb Jacobs** on November 2, 2006.



Seated: Natalie Robinson, Elaine and Bob Freeman, Jeff and Nancy Becker. Standing: Mike McClamroch, Jackie and Richard Imbrey and Stephen Rosen



Dr. Jeffery Becker, past KJCFF president, chats with Mike McClamroch, President/CEO of the East Tennessee Foundation.

