

# Presidential Matters

By Steve Aronowitz



It's a great feeling, a relief, no doubt... **Congregation L'Dor V'Dor, Oakland Little Neck Jewish Center**, put it in the books, it's official! In late November, the Honorable Valerie Braithwaite Nelson of the Supreme Court of NY, County of Queens, signed the Order of Consolidation – and the wait was finally over.

The facts are impressive: The Jewish Center has never been better. We have reason to take pride in being a vibrant, welcoming organization that is serving our spiritual, lifecycle, educational, cultural and social needs. Walking into the synagogue on any Saturday morning makes one feel enthusiastic about a being temple member. During the past few months, better than 50 of your friends and neighbors have been regular participants in Shabbat services. Almost every day of the week there is activity at the synagogue, morning and evening.

**The Message is Clear: There is Something for Everyone at OLNJC!**

## What's next?

We have a responsibility to pro-actively and creatively address what happens *down the road*. Your newly elected **Board of Trustees will be meeting on Monday, January 6, 2014**. The process of moving down the road will start with the endorsement of a new constitution for our synagogue and a new contract for Cantor Shron. Both of these documents will be sent, for approval, to a meeting of the **General Membership the following Monday, January 13, 2014**.

On January 8, a copy of the Constitution will be e-mailed to all members. If you wish a copy to be mailed, please contact the temple office. In addition, copies will be available at the temple office. I encourage you to read this document and come to the General Membership Meeting prepared to discuss and cast your vote on its ratification. This will be your opportunity to become part of the decision making process of our new congregation from its very beginning. The proposed contract with the Cantor will be available at the meeting.

Our future doesn't just descend like a stage-set, but rather, is constructed and shaped by our visions and dreams, and by the actions and concrete steps we take today. Our synagogue is a place filled not only with the sounds of prayer and the words of Torah. It is a place where babies are named, where lives are touched and where people connect. Congregation L'Dor V'Dor is a place where we come for comfort and support, a place where community is built, a place where we can celebrate our Judaism, along with a sense of pride in the rich past of both the Oakland and Little Neck Jewish Centers.

Bob Stern and I have been presidents of our respective shuls for better than six years. We feel good about our roles, we are thrilled by the seamless connection of the two temples, and we are looking forward to what is ahead. It's not simply words, it's real...we can feel it!

However, that enthusiasm is step one. After all, we know words are cheap. We won't make predictions. There are no guarantees. What we need is involvement. Now is the time to take the first step. **In early January, you will receive a letter requesting you to renew your commitment to your new synagogue with a donation honoring the start of Congregation L'Dor V'Dor.**

Each member has only one chance to be part of the very beginning of L'Dor V'Dor! I'm hoping you decide to make that commitment and I thank you in advance for your support.