

## Presidential Matters

By Steve Aronowitz



As I conclude my 10<sup>th</sup> and final year as president, I am optimistic about the future of our synagogue. Sometimes, the rhetoric at a temple meeting or a Kiddush luncheon appears to the observer not to echo that sentiment; however, it is that give-and-take that is the best of what we offer!

It's easy to recognize the caution signs that are in front of us – deficits and demographics. Every temple faces the same issues. I'd rather focus on the amazing things that take place at our shul day in, day out. Consider these recent highlights:

- Our annual Pack It Up For Purim activity that helped ensure that gift bags filled with food and other necessities were distributed to families in need in cooperation with the Samuel Field Y.
- A Celebrate Purim Program, that featured the great Latke-Hamantaschen debate, two options for the Megillah reading, great costumes and piña coladas for everyone!
- Congregation teamwork, including adults and children to assemble 600 Yom HaShoah candle bags for the upcoming Holocaust Memorial Observance.
- A wonderful Shabbat morning service honoring long-time member, Ken Guttenplan, at his 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his being called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah.
- A special Shabbat afternoon at which we hosted individuals with disabilities and their families, sponsored by the Men's Club, Sisterhood, and the Membership Committee. Thanks to generous donations from several families we were able to conduct a full Tu B'shevat Seder and enjoy a delicious Israeli supper.

We are a vibrant community, proud of the open, welcoming environment we have created. Our religious services are warm and inclusive. No doubt we are a synagogue in need, in need of your support, financially and through your participation. We need you to join us – on a Friday night or a Saturday morning. Don't leave it to someone else. Call a friend and make sure that we have a minyan so that those honoring the memory of a loved one are able to say Kaddish.

Most of all, take advantage of the stimulating and diverse spiritual, educational, social and leadership opportunities that nurture our love of and commitment to Jewish life, our synagogue, and the State of Israel.

With best wishes for a happy Passover,