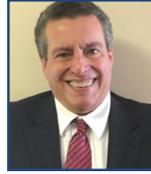


Presidential Matters

by Mitchell Stein

What a Great Sense of Community



Three Rabbis and a Cantor walk into the sanctuary. I am sure we have all heard many jokes that started like this. However, on Friday night, March 1st we had three Rabbis and a Cantor walk into our sanctuary and what occurred was amazing. We celebrated Shabbat by embracing Shabbat Across America with our greater Jewish community.

This year we invited Lake Success Jewish Center and Bellerose Jewish Center to enjoy this festive Shabbat in our home. Lake Success Jewish Center had eighteen people including their Rabbi and Cantor join us. Bellerose Jewish Center had 8 people including their Rabbi join us. In total, we had 120 neighborhood Conservative Jews sharing the Shabbat experience.

As always, Rabbi Yaffe led another wonderful Shabbat service. Rabbi Yaffe was able to make the other Rabbis feel extremely welcome by having them lead our combined congregation for parts of the service. In addition, he asked the Cantor from Lake Success to lead us in some of our prayers as well. The sanctuary was vibrating from the tremendous participation of all who attended.

To increase the importance of this collaborative celebration, State Senator John Liu attended this event. With tremendous pride he presented the Rabbi, our Co-President Marjorie Goldstein and myself a proclamation to commemorate this community event.

Just a week later, we celebrated our 70th Anniversary with a 1970's themed dance. We had nearly 70 people attend this social event and many barely left the dance floor. The night was filled with excellent music, great food and lots of friendship.

Just a day before this dance, we received a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition from our Congressman, Thomas Suozzi. This was presented to us in honor of our 70th Anniversary.

In just one short week, we were able to celebrate our wonderful history and the hopes for an even greater future with members of the greater Conservative Jewish Community and with our elected officials. The only thing that would have made this week even better would have been more participation from our congregational family.

The next time you receive a flyer or a phone call, consider joining us. You never know what you will be missing.