

Presidential Matters

by Steve Aronowitz



Every new year brings change, and this year will be no exception. It also brings the opportunity for new beginnings. As we come together in our synagogue, I hope we will meet our challenges by remembering what we helped build over so many years: the thriving communities of Oakland and Little Neck. You did so with commitment and openness to different points of view. The result was a *heimish* home, a warm, unpretentious place where everyone was treated like family.

If that spirit has changed, it is up to each of us to restore it as we face what may be our most challenging time. As we determine our future, we must draw upon our history and remember what has guided us in the past: our willingness to listen to one another, respect different perspectives, and work together toward the best interests of our synagogue community.

It's not easy.

With several meetings ahead, let's take a moment to pause and embrace the joy and renewal of Rosh Hashanah. And this year, we're adding a little special throwback as we welcome Cantor Josh Shron back to join Rabbi Yaffe for the Holidays. This will be a wonderful song filled opportunity to reconnect, celebrate and welcome the New Year together.

Added to the holiday events, we're looking forward to Cantor Shron presenting his acclaimed musical media presentation, *The Soundtrack of Israel Joy*. Save the date – scheduled for Wednesday, September 16th, at 8 pm. Cantor Shron's rich background of Israeli culture is certain to add to the good feelings that are sure to inspire us on the holidays. The Cantor will take us through an emotional journey of songs that define Israeli optimism, resilience, and hope. Check out further information in this bulletin or contact the synagogue office.

Just as you, I worry what will happen in the future and for us, the future is immediate. That makes it all the more critical to bring your passion and enthusiasm to the synagogue.

Wherever our future plans call for, lean on the strength we have utilized to get us there. We have done it before!

On behalf of Helene and Mitchell Beckerman, and Julie and Jordan, I wish you a happy and healthy new year.