# The Shofar September/October, 1994



Published by The United Jewish Congregation of Hong Kong

# Trustees Send R.H. Greetings

The Trustees are glad to have this opportunity of wishing a Happy New Year to all members of The United Jewish Congregation of Hong Kong. As UJC members will know, the redevelopment at Robinson Road is to incorporate a new Jewish Community Centre (not a Club) which will cater for all members of all synagogues and other congregations of Jews in Hong Kong, under the guidance (as the Trustees propose) of a fulltime Community Centre director.

The Centre will provide new opportunities for the community to develop a real sense of cohesion and the Trustees hope that all members of the Jewish community of Hong Kong, to whichever synagogue or congregation they may belong, will take advantage of these opportunities (of course, exhibiting in doing so that sensitivity for the other person's belief and point of view which is essential to the successful operation of any civilized society).

The Jewish Community Centre will provide educational and social facilities ancillary to the religious facilities maintained and supported by the Trustees. The Trustees are confident that it will substantially enhance the quality of Jewish life in Hong Kong; and they hope members of The UJC will make use of the opportunities it will offer them and other members of the Jewish community to lead a fuller Jewish life.

■ The Incorporated Trustees of the Jewish Community of Hong Kong



#### Welcome New Members

Steve & Roselyn Aaronson & Scott, 13, David, 8 (USA) David Albert (USA)

> Peter Barnett and Georgina, 9, Richard, 7, Gabriella, 5, and Roland, 2 (Britain) Ioel Brother (USA)

> > Andrew & Cara Case (USA)

Pat and Carl Cooper & Andrew, 4, Jennifer, 7 (USA) Shlomo and Limor Daniel & Edan, 20 mos. (Israel)

Sean and Jennifer Debow (Canada) Arbel Eichbaum (USA)

Bob Fetzer and Rosanne Zimmerman (USA)

David I. Firestein (USA)

Robert Fisch

George Forrai (Australia)

Harry Friedberg

Bradley H. Gendell (USA)

Barry and Marlene Gold & Jonathan, 5,

and Andrew, 3 (USA)

Jeff Halpern and Hana, 10, Samantha, 7, & Brittany, 1 \frac{1}{2} (Canada)

Edward Hoffman (USA)

Ira Jachman (USA)

James and Robin Kaptzan

Chaim and Sofia Katzap (USA)

Dr. Melanie Katzman and Russell Makowsky &

Wyndham, 5, Harper, 2 (USA)

Connie Magill & Alexander, 5, Gregory 3 1/2 (USA) Aaron Marcus

Shelley & Gary McKinley & Erica, 4 (USA)

Paul S. Milstein and Naomi, 4, Neal, 2 (USA)

Dr. Stephanie I. Mitchell (USA/UK)

Neil Peretz (USA)

Rebecca Robbins

Dan Rosenblum and Ann Friedman

& Hannah, 2 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> (USA) Jonathan Ross and Phillip, 2 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, Anais, 1 (US/UK)

Stuart & Yvonne Rubin & Danielle, 19 (New

Zealand & Australia)

Lawrence Sacks (USA)

Barry Shapiro and Karen Hirsch & David, Sean,

Lori, Lisa, Leah, Karl, Kerri, Kyle (USA)

Perry & Sonjie Solomon (USA)

Michelle Sperber (USA)

David Taylor (Britain)

from Rabbi Kosovske's study

# Tishrei — time to reflect, begin anew

The month of Tishrei is rich and powerful. It is a month so filled with holy days that we can hardly keep up with it. From Rosh Hashanah which provokes us to intense introspection to Yom Kippur which challenges us to correct our shortcomings, from Sukkot which summons us to count and consider our life and its blessings to Simchat Torah which reminds us of our never-ending responsibilities to the one activity that carves out our uniqueness as a People, 23 days in Tishrei are a microcosm of a lifetime.

In now way is any of this a simple process either. Rabbis and cantors fear it. Synagogue administrators and ritual chairpeople dread it. Congregants and their families look forward to it. And all of us somehow survive it.

It is strange. We live here in a society that observes a plethora of holidays. But other than the fact that they remind us that most of us are (and likely always will be) strangers in this place, few of us think about the messages of those holidays. However for us Jews, come Tishrei, and we fully involve ourselves in a profound consideration of every aspect of the meaning of life. Unlike with the Hong Kong holidays, this isn't a time just to take the day off. It is a time to think about the ultimate problems of our lives!

Each year since becoming a rabbi, this season has affected me differently. As Tishrei approached, I always pondered th year just ending and tried to come up with new ways to solve problems whose solutions before had eluded me. In some years, of course, I experienced more challenges than I did in others. Therefore, this season could be marked with turbulence and anxiety one year and with relative calm the next. But from year to year one thing never changed: the approach to Tishrei always started a time in which I thought about new things which helped me grow.

This year is no different. As in the past, I am now thinking about things I never thought about before. It turns out that after these past two years, a period in which, for the first time since my ordination, I could work on and gain perspective on my own Jewishness (something, by the way, that made it possible to accept your invitation to become your and UJC's rabbi) and also have the opportunity to interact with Jews outside of the synagogue, I sense an urgency that I never before knew. Things haven't gotten better in the Jewish world. If anything, we as a people have moved backwards. When you read the studies and find things like conversion

sion into Judaism being down, you start to see some of what we are up against. But you don't have to read studies to know that there is a problem out there. In this past two years, I did a lot *shul*-hopping, and even with the wonderful sermons I often heard, I rarely encountered a well-attended synagogue. And if the programs such as sports nights, stress seminars, and the like that I routinely heard being touted during 'announcement time' are any indication, the prospect of Judaism's future in most synagogues in downright bleak!

But I have hope. And I think that what we are doing here and what The United Jewish Congregation is all about, that is, trying to create a positive and meaningful Reform Jewish presence in Hong Kong, must just help begin to turn things around. The fact that we have configured this synagogue just a little differently from the way that other synagogues are configured, that we try to fulfill the Jewish needs of our congregants as they are and not as we think they ought to be, goes a long way toward creating an environment in which what we say Judaism is about can become reality. That, by the way, can serve not only as a source of a positive Jewish experience for ourselves. It can become a model for the entire Jewish world.

Tishrei is a month of new beginnings, and for us in our new relationship, new beginnings is what we shall celebrate. It is my prayer that the results of our relationship will be continuing renewed vigor for all of us here even as it signals a time of increased strength for our People worldwide.

May this be for you a time in which all of your hopes will be realized and all of your dreams fulfilled. And to you and your dear ones, I wish you a shanah tovah umetukah, a good and a a sweet year.

L'shalom.

Howard A. Kosovske

Rabbi



L'shannah tovah tikateivu v'teichateimu, may you be inscribed and sealed for a good year in the Book of Life...

## Choice Lulav, Etrog Coming

The UJC's Sukkot celebration will be enhanced by a carefully chosen *lulav* and *etrog*, ordered specially by Rabbi Kosovske from the U.S. based on selection skills honed by many years in the rabbinnate. This joyous festival starting September 20 will be marked at the Shabbat

service September 23.

'Through the *lulav* and *etrog*, we acknowledge our dependence upon God for the food we eat. Living in an urban environment, it's easy to forget that both human labor and divine blessing make the world fruitful. On Sukkot our thoughts turn to the wonder and beauty of the world, to our responsibilities as its caretakers, and to our obligation to share, for God is the true owner of the land and its produce.'

Gates of the Seasons

# Kind words for The UJC From the Kosovskes

Thanks to all of the UJC members for the warm welcome to the community. Everything you did to facilitate our move here is deeply

appreciated by us.

We know that your efforts were considerable. Whether in your working toward getting us here in the first place or your making the complex arrangements that it took to bring about our move, we know that the hours of concern that you put forth because of us were great. However, we want to share this with you: tired as we were when we arrived at Repulse Bay after the all-night flight and the hours of trying to get our pet into the territory, when we opened the door to the apartment for the first time and found a clean place awaiting us with food in the refrigerator and a beautiful basket of fruit from you greeting us, we knew that we had come home. And though we were in Hong Kong at that point for but a few hours, this had, because of you, already become the community that we felt was ours.

We look forward to the coming months and years in which we will be able to get to know and interact with all of you. Our hope is that this time in our lives be one of spiritual growth and fulfillment for every one of us.

Barbara and Howard Kosovske

What's happening with our neighbors — a regional view

# Jewpinos, JUBUs, and Shanghai Jews Old & New

Stresses 'points of similarity'

### Poet Looks at Judaism, Buddhism

Jewish Buddhists, 'JUBUs' as described by the Jewish newspaper Forward, have attracted attention recently with the publication of 'The Jew in the Lotus: A Poet's Rediscovery of Jewish Identity in Buddhist India' by Rodger Kamenetz.

Mr. Kamenetz's interest stems from his belief, according to a June 3 article in the *Forward*, that 'maybe we can learn something from the Buddhist experience, something to help us strengthen contemporary Judaism and make it a little bit more complete.

A professor of English at Louisiana State University, Mr. Kamenetz speaks of 'many points of similarity' between the two religions that he discovered as member of a delegation of rabbis and scholars who traveled to the remote northern Indian town of Dharamsala for a historic meeting with the Dalai Lama in 1990. "For example, one of the key concepts of Buddhism is shunyata - the sense of 'emptiness' you strive to attain. Similarly, I think the kabbalists realized that all these personal names we ascribe to God in the Torah — Judge, King, Father — are just images, not the ultimate reality. And the name they give to the ultimate reality is ain sof — the impersonal aspect of God, sometimes translated as 'no thing.' Because when you're at that stage of contemplation, there's nothing you can say."

Speaking of the Kabbalah and other writings, Mr. Kamenetz said that "For years, these mystical elements were suppressed and despised — certainly by the German Jews who developed the rationalist tradition of Reform Judaism. And yet one of the things the Dalai Lama asked us is, 'Why don't you open these teachings

up to more people?'

He said Jewish interest in Buddhism over the last 20 years came mainly from a search for spiritual fulfillment. "It's not really that these people were alienated from Judaism. Judaism itself was not presenting its best face or tradition to us. How did mainstream Judaism after the war present itself to young, socially curious people? It was very outward-looking and exoteric. It was involved in political issues. I grew up as a Reform Jew — and Reform Judaism was the civil rights movement, it was liberalism, but it wasn't talking about God or spirituality or how to improve yourself."

Does Mr. Kamenetz 'see a drift toward Eastern philosophy as a

genuine threat to Jewish continuity?' the Forward asks.

"I don't think any Jewish parent is happy to see their child become Buddhist or Hindu. But if we start asking ourselves why did these people do this, maybe we're asking a better question. And if we start talking among ourselves and with these people, maybe we'll come to a better understanding.

"If you've ever practiced Buddhist meditation and found that you're calmer, that you're less prey to your emotions, that you handle your ups and downs better, then I think naturally, as a Jew, the question arises, 'Is there anything like this in my own tradi-

tion?' I believe the answer is yes.'

Some of the Jewish Buddhists Mr. Kamenetz interviews in his book, such as Dr. Mark Lieberman, the organizer of the summit in Dharamsala, have managed to reconcile aspects of their Jewish background with Buddhist philosophy. 'I have Jewish roots and Buddhist wings' is the mixed metaphor of Dr. Lieberman's choice.

The Dalai Lama 'was enormously interested in finding out how the Jewish people have managed to survive 20 centuries in exile," Mr. Kamenetz said. "Remember, he's been out of Tibet since '59. He's watched the Chinese enact a policy of slow-motion genocide over a generation —killing an estimated 1.2 million of his people, banning the teaching of Buddhism, razing and pillaging thousands of Buddhist monasteries. And he's 58 now — he has to wonder what happens to his people after he dies."

Successful Kaifeng trip inspires more

## UJC Plans Heritage Tour to Shanghai Next Spring

In response to the hugely successful UJC heritage tour to Kaifeng with Rabbi Joseph this spring, the Executive Committee has asked Mr. Al Fine, committee member and organizer of the Kaifeng tour, to make arrangements for a UJC trip to Shanghai in spring, 1995.

Mr. Fine and chairman Bob Green made preliminary inquiries during a business trip to Shanghai in July. They met with Professor PanGuang, dean of the Center of Jewish Studies Shanghai. and visited several sites connected with the Jewish presence in the city earlier this century.

As presently envisioned, the tour would be for around four to five days and include, in addition to visits to old synagogue and other Jewish sites, a

day or overnight trip to nearby Xuzhou.

Although final details will not be announced until later this year or early next year, those who may be interested in joining are encouraged to contact Mr. Fine for more information.

The professor estimated that there were now around 300 Jews living in Shanghai, mostly expatriate businessmen.

#### Old community seeks new links Manila's Jews Look Outward

A Jewish group in Manila who refer to themselves as 'Jewpinos' has contacted The UJC in the hope

of sharing information and experiences.

The Community was established a number of years ago, according to spokeswoman Betsy Malca, and includes a number of members who were born in the Philippines. Some of the earliest members were Jews who came from the Middle East, according to Ms Malca.

As differences developed with the more traditionally-minded, some of the more liberal or progressive members have begun looking for other

ways to express their Judaism.

As in Hong Kong, The Community includes a number of professionals, merchants, traders, and those engaged in what Ms Malca describes as

'Jewish engineering, i.e. shmattes.'

In addition to worship services, Jewish life in the community centers around The Jewish Social Club. The September issue of the Community's newsletter (The Shofar) tells of efforts to establish an Hadassah chapter in Manila, discusses various tzedakha outreach projects under consideration (helping squatters, supplying books and medicine to tribal groups), plans to build a sukkah, plans for family activities.

UJC members who plan to visit or work in Manila and would like to make contact may get more

information from The UJC office.

# Celebrate Simchat Torah

# The UJC

**Jamily Service, Songs and Dancing** 

followed by coffeeltea, juice, cookies and snacks for the children

a wonderful way to introduce your children

to the joys of being Jewish



Monday, September 26, 1994 6:30 p.m. — 8:00 p.m. Union Church Church Hall 22A Kennedy Road, Mid-Levels

# Wanted: People to work for nothing

Salary: More than you're presently making Hours: As many as you can possibly afford Benefits: Lots of satisfaction, friends, maybe more

If you're looking for a way to make the New Year more rewarding, The UJC is offering the chance for a return many times greater than what you put in. It's the chance to serve on a subcommittee or add a new dimension to the Congregation with a special skill or talent. Don't miss this opportunity to help The UJC work for you by expanding our religious, social, cultural, educational, and recreational activities in the coming year.

riease iiii iii this form and	send to the UJC (GPO	Box 6083, H.K. or fax 523-3961).
I am interested in getting in		
<ul> <li>religious practices/ritual</li> </ul>	ommittee: recommend religion	ious content, congregational policies, liturg bers and visitors with UJC services, activitie
	oreparation, administration of	faccounts
☐ fundraising: plan. develo	o, coordinate, implement fund	raising campaigns
music, choir: help the UJ	C establish a choir, encourage	e congregational singing, do special event
☐ holidays, festivals, etc.: h	elp arrange Chanukah and Pr	Purim celebrations, seder, and other events
☐ religious retreats/heritage	tours : help plan and arrange	e these important, annual events
□ membership: develop an	d implement plans to build me ch they have expressed inter	embership and integrate new members into
membership directory: he	lp prepare the annual UJC m	nembership directory
advertising: help solicit a	lvertising for the annual mem	bership directory and other publications
publicity, public relations:	widen public recognition, acq	quaintance with The UJC here and abroad
Outreach/social action: he	lp involve The UJC in charital	ble, community projects here and abroad
gram;teach or administe	tion: recommend policy, conte r programs for children	ent, structure for a UJC educational pro-
adult education courses:	olan programs such as study/	discussion groups, visiting lecturers, etc.
adult Hebrew Instruction:	mplement, administer, or help	lp teach Hebrew classes
young professionals: dev	elop programs, social activitie naintain, promote a youth pro	es for singles and voung married members
women's issues group: he	lp establish a UJC women's	group
men's issues group: help	establish a UJC men's group	
newsletter and flyers: help	write, design, layout, publish	n The UJC's newsletter and flyers
☐ legal: advise The UJC on	various legal matters relating	to constitutional procedures, activities
archives: gather and mair	tain all records and reports or	n the growth and progress of The U.IC so
that a complete and tho	ough historical record will be	available
☐ liaison: develop, maintain	relations with other congrega	itions and the Trustees
oπice volunteer: help Exe	cutive Administrator handle m	nailings, telephone inquiries, bookings, etc
Name	Address	
	Tel	Fax
have the following special skil	(s), talent(s), background into	rerest(s)
	( , ,	0.001(0)

The Incorporated Trustees of the Jewish Community of Hong Kong

invite you to meet

#### Clive Lawton

(the Executive Director of Jewish Continuity)
whose visit to the Asia Pacific Region has been organised
by The Commonwealth Jewish Council.

on Sunday, October 2nd in the Jewish Club at 8.15p.m.

RSVP Lily Tel. 801 5440 Fax. 877 0917

Clive Lawton is the "Richard Branson" of Jewish Education. He has vast experience as a Community leader and has been the headmaster of a Jewish School and the deputy director of a local education authority. He is charismatic and inspirational.

Clive will talk about the concept of Jewish Continuity, describe its current initiatives, many of which will have relevance for our new Jewish Community Centre, and will answer your questions. As plans are made for the use of our new premises this is a unique opportunity to have the input of a real expert.

All Jewish people living in Hong Kong are invited to attend this important meeting

# A look at a prayer book for the 21st century Noted Rabbi to Speak at Service on Evolving Reform Liturgy

What is the future direction of Reform Jewish worship? What will services be like ten years from now? Now

you have a chance to find out!

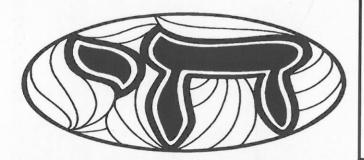
The UJC takes pleasure in announcing that Rabbi H. Leonard Poller will join me on the bimah at our Shabbat service Friday, September 23. The spiritual leader of Larchmont Temple in Larchmont, New York, Rabbi Poller is the immediate past Chair of the Liturgy Committee of the Central Conference of American Rabbis. He is also the Chair of the task force for the new Reform prayer book that is already in the works.

A stimulating speaker, Rabbi Poller has been invited by The UJC to give the Shabbat pulpit the week he and his wife, Priscilla, are in Hong Kong. Rabbi Poller will be bringing with him the new edition of the *Gates of Prayer for Shabbat and Weekdays* just published by the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR). That will illuminate his remarks on 'The Eternal Renewal — a Siddur (Prayer Book) for the 21st Century.' Time allowing, we will even have a short discussion on the subject.

Plan to join us! Don't miss out on this important

look into our future!

Rabbi Howard A. Kosovske



#### Hospital/workshop in Wuhan sparks interest

#### UJC To Consider Outreach Project

A number of UJC members have expressed interest in an outreach project in China, mentioned during announcements at the Rosh Hashanah service, that helps the mentally ill and

mentally handicapped.

Officially called 'Rehabilitation Centre for Mentally III People Jiang An District Wuhan,' the project includes a workshop making leather slippers and a hospital. Dr. Heinze Klatte, the honorary director, says both volunteer help and financial aid are greatly needed to cope with the demands. He said volunteers willing to spend from one week to one month would be welcome, particularly those with administrative or medical experience.

Dr. Klatte has agreed to speak at a UJC Shabbat service on his next visit in Hong Kong. A Rotary spokesman has also expressed possible interest in cooperating with The UJC in aiding the project. Meanwhile, members who wish to learn

more may contact Bob Green at 735-3037.

#### Parents please step forward

#### Apply here for Bar/Bat Mitzvah classes

Are you the parent of either a 12-year old or almost a 12-year-old? And is your child going to celebrate becoming Bar/Bat Mitzvah either here, in Israel, or in a synagogue outside of Hong Kong? Then please contact me **immediately.** 

I am in the process of setting up a program for our B'nai Mitzvah candidates and their parents which will meaningfully prepare everyone concerned for that powerful, milestone life-moment. We know of three youngsters who are going to celebrate becoming Bar/Bat Mitzvah within the next year or so, but likely there are more. Please let me know if your child belongs on our list.

We do not want any youngsters or their families inadvertently to miss this wonderful opportunity.

Rabbi Howard A. Kosovske

# Shabbat, Shabbat, Shabbat

Friday, September 16
Family Service

Conducted by Rabbi Howard A. Kosovske

Friday, September 23 **Family Service** 

Conducted by Rabbi Howard A. Kosovske with talk by Rabbi H. Leonard Poller Friday, September 30 **Family Service** 

Conducted by Rabbi Howard A. Kosovske

The American Club, Kam Shan Room, 6:30 P.M.

Exchange Square II, 49th floor, Hong Kong Central District

followed by

Italian Buffet Supper

Members: adults \$135.00, children \$85.00 Non-members: Adults \$150.00, children \$100.00















Paul Alexander Bernard & Pat Alter David Ball Iouce Barnathan & Steve Strasser Melvin & Paulette Bazerman Arthur & Linda Belfer Susan Berfield David Berman Carol Betson & Hank Goldstein Terri Bloom Rita & Karl Bongarten R. Cave Tanya Cawthorne Sheila Chadwick Claude Charles Michael Cooper & Mary Kenyon Robert & Jamie Davis Don & Amy DaSaro Monty & Zandra Diamond Iill Dodwell-Groves Robert & Sherri Dorfman Alexander Feldman Mitch & Angie Feigenberg Perry Feuer Al & Sharon Fine Ioe & Elane Fine Ionathan Fink Andrew & Lisa Fitchie Arnold Fleischer Diane Freis-Bradley George & Sofia Forrai Jonathan & Maureen Fox Phyllis & Glenn Gerstell Iay Goldin Leslie Goldsman Bob & Grace Green Marvin Greenberg David & Karen Handmaker Barry Halpern Victoria Hartstein Rebecca & Bob Hasse Chuck & Chai Sook Himmel Isabella Ho Bert & Hertha Horwitz Neal Horwitz & Jane Horan Leslie & Annabelle Isaacs Keith & Illran Jacobson Martha & Joseph Josephson Sir Horace Kadoorie The Hon. Michael & Betty Kadoorie

Bernard Kalb Peter & April Kaminsky Allen Kanter Alexandeer Karsner & Maria Lindqvist Sheldon Kasowitz Ronald & Rachel Kent Seth Lazarus Jeremy Leifer & Fiona Collins Sally & Shalom Levy Tim & Lisa Lindon Saul Lockhart Franklin & Suzanne Lowenstein **Emily Maitus** Richard & Naomi Mandel Basil & Debbie Marcus Michael & Anne Markowitz Seth Maerowitz & Ann Friedman **Ieff Martin** Robert Mendelow Robert Meyer Amy Meyer Mark & Kate Michelson Andrew Miller Susan & Michel Millodot Daniel Mintz & Susan Huang Stephanie Mitchell William & Heather Mocatta Charles Monat Jennifer Moses & Ron Beller Miron & Roda Mushkat Sonia Park David & Lucinda Patsiner Leonard & Dianne Patsiner Andrew Pleatman & Ellen McNally Mary Seddon Sharon Ser Mollie & Bob Sherbin Lois & Ron Shulman Larry Sloven Steve Sokol Eric Stanton Andrew Starger Michael Stiber Marc Straussberg David Shapiro Andrew Tanzer & Kazuko Ouchi George & Gloria Urias David Wachtel Gary Weiss & Peggy Liu David Weller











Steve Kahn

#### Mazel Tov!

Anne and Gerald Godfrey on the birth of their first grandchild Jacqueline, David, and Doran Blinderman on Doran's Bar Mitzvah Rosanna and Scott Felder on the birth of their son Robert

#### Thanks!

Karen Handmaker for her tireless efforts as chair of the Rabbi Search committee and the success she and her fellow committee members have achieved

Ben Frankel and Fiona Connell for helping prepare the Rabbi's flat Mollie and Bob Sherbin for housing Robyn Helzner

Robert Meyer for housing Robyn Helzner

Al and Sharon Fine for contributing to the cost of flowers for the High Holidays

Jacqueline and David Blinderman for contributing to the cost of the Yom Kippur break-the-fast

Sonia Park for helping with mailings

Neil Hortwitz for assisting with Rabbi Kosovske's move

Ann Friedman for helping with mailings

Diana Satok for helping with mailings, High Holidays, and collecting for the Shabbat buffets

Al Fine for helping with the High Holidays and Shabbat services

Robert Meyer and Chuck Monat for the use of their conference rooms

Mel Bazerman, Mark Michelson for helping with High Holidays publicity Sharon Fine for help with the High Holidays and collecting for the Shabbat buffets

Mel Satok for helping with the High Holidays

Ben Frankel for leading Shabbat services

Joe Fine for helping with the High Holidays

Neil Horwitz for leading Shabbat services

Gina Levy for leading Shabbat services

Clare Ray for helping with the High Holidays

Michael Weininger for helping with the High Holidays

Janet Golden for making High Holiday arrangements at Shouson Theatre

Carol Betson for helping at the reception desk in Shouson Theatre

Mark Michelson for picking up the Kosovskes and Robyn Helzner at the airport

Linda Simon for blowing the shofar at High Holiday services

#### Get Well Soon!

**Hertha Horwitz**, from your friends in The UJC including all the Shabbat service and supper regulars. You are missed.

Cindy Theil, best wishes from The UJC for a speedy recovery.

Publisher seeks photos, memoirs from former Jewish residents

# Pictorial To Focus on old Shanghai

Shanghai Pictorial has has asked former residents to contribute photos and memoirs for an album planned for next year entitled 'The Jewish Community of Shanghai.' Editor-in-chief Professor PanGuang, Dean of the Center of Jewish Studies Shanghai, wants pictures and papers which may now be in the hands of relatives and friends of those who once lived in the city's foreign settlements.

'This album will unfold before you the social life of Sephardic and Russian Jews in this metropolis, the mutual aid of Jewish refugees during wartime, and the sincere friendship built up between the Jewish people and Shanghai-landers,' Professor PanGuang said in a letter to *The Shofar*.

The professor asks those with materials of interest to send them to him at the Center of Jewish Studies Shanghai, 622-7 Huai Hai Road (M), Suite 355, Shanghai 200020, China. The professor may also be reached at telephone 86-21-3271170 and fax 86-21-3751446.

#### UJC Funds: Opportunities for giving

There are many wonderful ways to honor, thank, and/or memorialize friends and loved ones in our tradition. One special way is to make a donation to one of the UJC Funds. These funds have specific purposes which in the main help our Congregation with its expenses. Please consider a donation to a UJC Fund as a beautiful tribute to someone special.

# Shana Tova

and best wishes for a happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year to all UJC members and the H.K. Jewish Community

Rabbi Samuel K. Joseph Dori, Rachel, & Bethami

# The United Jewish Congregation of Hong Kong

Office: GPO Box 5259, Hong Kong Tel. 523-2985; Fax 523-3961 802 Queen's Place 74 Queen's Road Central, Hong Kong Rabbi Howard A. Kosovske: Tel. 523-2663 Home Tel: 592-9325; Home Fax: 812-9531 Exec. Administrator: Ms Sarah Milliard Chairman: GPO Box 6083, Hong Kong Tel. 735-3037, Fax 730-5507

#### **Executive Committee**

Chairman, editor, The Shofar.....Bob Green
Vice-chairmen...Carol Betson, Mark Michelson
Treasurer...Peter Kaminsky
Secretary....Elane Fine
Membership....Mark Michelson, Elane Fine
Children's Ed....Elane Fine
Adult Education...Mollie Blaum-Sherbin
Financial...Karen Handmaker
Fund-raising...Mel Bazerman, Albert Fine
Legal...Robert Meyer
Religious/Ritual...Neal Horowitz
Liaison...Dennis Leventhal, Charles Monat
Social/Planning...Janet Golden, Sharon Yoel
Mollie Blaum-Sherbin

The Shofar is published bi-monthly by The UJC. Requests for copies and notification of address changes should be addressed to The UJC office.

### Calendar: September/October 1994

#### Calendar

Friday, September 16, 6:30 P.M.

Shabbat Family Service The American Club

Friday, September 23, 6:30 P.M.

Shabbat Family Service Visiting rabbi to speak The American Club

**Saturday, September 24** 4:00 P.M. — 6:00 P.M.

Kosovskes' Open House

Monday, September 26, 6:30 P.M.

Simchat Torah Service Union Church

22A Kennedy Rd., Mid-levels

Friday, September 30, 6:30 P.M.

Shabbat Family Service The American Club

Friday, October 7, 6:30 P.M.

Shabbat Family Service
The American Club

Friday, October 14, 6:30 P.M.

Shabbat Family Service The American Club

Friday, October 21, 6:30 P.M.

Shabbat Family Service
The American Club

Friday, October 30, 6:30 P.M.

Shabbat Family Service The American Club

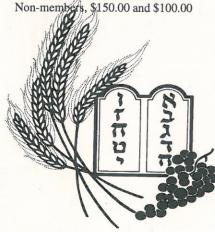
Friday, November 4, 6:30 p.m.

Shabbat Family Service The American Club

The American Club Kam Shan Room, 49/f, Exchange Square II, Central District

Services are followed by an **Italian buffet supper** 

Members, \$135.00 adults, \$85.00 children under 12



Will also mount Mezzuzah

#### Rabbi, Wife To Host Open House

Rabbi and Mrs. Kosovske have invited all members for a Saturday afternoon open house and *Hanukat Habayit*, the traditional ceremony in which a mezuzah is mounted to the doorpost to dedicate the home. There will also be a *havdallah* service to mark the end of shabbat.

The UJC's Executive Administrator Sarah Millard will asist with preparations and coordination.

It will be greatly appreciated if all those planning to attend (and perhaps bring something for the table to mark this special occasion) inform Ms Millard well in advance at 523-2985.

# Open House

Saturday, September 24 4:00 p.m. — 6:00 p.m. hosted by Rabbi and Mrs. Kosovske

28 Belleview Drive, 1/4 Repulse Bay Gardens Repulse Bay, Hong Kong Tel. 592-9325

Guest parking available

## Children's Story

One Yom Kippur a Rabbi imagined he stood before God and had the following conversation: God asked him:

'Have you studied all you should?'

The Rabbi said, 'No.'

Then he was asked:

'Have you prayed all you should?

Again he answered, 'No.'
He was asked a third question:

'Have you done all the good you should?'

And this time, too, he said, 'No.' And God proclaimed:

'You have told the truth, and for the sake of truth, you will be forgiven.'

#### **YOM KIPPUR**

Kol Nidre

Wednesday, September 14, 7:30 P.M.

Yom Kippur Day

Thursday, September 15 Children's Service, 9:30 A.M.

Morning Service, 9:30 A.M.

Recess

Discussion, 3:00 P.M.

Yizkor (Memorial Service), 4:00 P.M.

Afternoon and Neila (concluding) Services, 4:30 P.M.

#### **Hong Kong Arts Centre**

Shouson Theatre, 1/F 2 Harbour Road Wanchai, Hong Kong

Parking available at Convention Centre and Shui On Centre car parks, Harbour Road

#### Visitors Welcome

The UJC welcomes visitors and othernon-members to its High Holiday services. Contributions to help cover our many expenses will be greatly appreciated.

The UJC suggests a minimum donation of HK\$800 or US\$100 per person for admission to one or all of the services. You may pay at the reception desk immediately before services with cash or check (H.K. or U.S. dollars).

Alternatively, visitors may choose to become UJC members, as follows, and receive, in addition to High Holiday tickets, regular mailings of this newsletter and full membership privileges. Applications are available at the reception desk outside Shouson Theatre or by calling The UJC office at 523-2985.

#### **Membership Fees**

Individual \*HK\$1,800.00 (US\$235.00)

Family HK\$3,000.00 (US\$390.00)

Non-resident (individual) HK\$800.00 (US\$100.00)

\* Residents 30 and under may elect to pay HK\$1,200.00 (US\$155.00) for individual membership or make other arrangements with the treasurer.