

Shem Tov Awards

ADAS ISRAEL CONGREGATION **ALAIN WIESENTHAL**



As a long standing member of the Adas Israel Congregation, Dr. Alain Wiesenthal has, in recent years, taken on an active role as gabbai and a personal interest in encouraging daily minyan attendance. His commitment to the growth and vitality of our community is outstanding as he puts his "body where his mouth is" by regularly volunteering for United Shabbat and other events, editing publications and taking photos of events (to name just a few). He is an extremely valued member of our Adas Family and we look forward to many, many more years of partnership.

BETH JACOB SYNAGOGUE **DAN LEVY**



Dan Levy is a lifelong Beth Jacob member descending from four Russian immigrant grandparents. His parents and most of his relatives were tied to Beth Jacob Synagogue. He has devoted much of his life to the operations of our shul and is a treasured advisor with valuable input.

Upon joining the Board of Governors in 1970, he has held the positions of Treasurer, Vice President, Finance Chairman, and since 1998 has devoted much of his time as Cemetery Chair. Clearly drawn to the role, Dan is aware that the care and maintenance of a cemetery is alike to caring for family. There are few others as knowledgeable of

the community's family trees and histories as Dan. One of Dan's most challenging accomplishments, was the establishment of the new Stanley Sobel Cemetery which, after four years of difficult and strategic planning, was consecrated in 2003.

Dan's ten years as president of United Hebrew Memorial Chapel further complements Jewish values with respect to proper care of the deceased and compassionate attention to the needs of their families. Marcia, Dan's wife of 51 years, is also tremendously involved in the UHMC's management. Dan says, "There are two kinds of gratitude-the instant rush we feel for what we take and the larger kind we feel for what we give." Though Dan asks for no recognition for his efforts, we at Beth Jacob are deeply appreciative- with both kinds of appreciation!- for the time, expertise, and deep caring Dan brings to our community. Jewish communities have long been sustained by individuals like Dan, and we are fortunate to benefit from his efforts.

BETH TIKVAH **IAN BINNIE**



Just over two years ago, Stan Tick announced that the Beth Tikvah Foundation would have a new board member; Ian Binnie, a lawyer in Toronto but with a close family tie to Beth Tikvah, his uncle Bruce. Ian joined the board and hit the ground running. He quickly became an integral part of the organization, thanks in large part to his deep knowledge of the legal world. Over the past year and a half, Ian has guided our organization through the maze of government compliance, taking us through the challenges of a new direction in our operation and all with a smile and calm demeanor. Unquestioningly, Ian is the perfect candidate for Beth Tikvah's nomination for the Shem Tov award. Not only does he epitomize what a good name is all about, he lives it every day of his life. When asked why he has given so much to our organization, his response is exactly what one would expect:

Ian says, "We are very fortunate to have agencies like Beth Tikvah. It provides a stable and nurturing environment for people with developmental disabilities and gives them the opportunity to reach their full potential as members of our community. I think it's only fair that I do what I can to help Beth Tikvah continue on with its good work."

CHABAD HOUSE **MICHAEL BERNHOLTZ**



Michael Bernholtz is a second year MBA student at McMaster. Whether serving, cleaning or setting up or simply being a friendly face to greet whomever walks in, Michael has been an integral part of why Chabad House Shabbat dinners run smoothly.

Michael says, "Chabad house is so welcoming and warm to students, The Rosenfeld's really work hard to be gracious to every student who comes in, and I like to help out when I can in order to thank them for being so open. I feel like I am doing my part to help make a difference."

"...the crown of a good name excels them all."

Volunteers

Day after day Jewish life in our community is enriched by dedicated volunteers who devote their time and energy to making their respective organizations thrive. On Tuesday, May 22 at 7:00 p.m. at the Federation Annual General Meeting, the community will pay tribute to the people pictured on these pages, each of whom has been nominated by their organization for a Shem Tov Community Volunteer Award. We hope you will join us.

HAMILTON HEBREW ACADEMY/HJMS **KATHY JACKSON**



Kathy Jackson has a long history of service to the Hamilton Hebrew Academy and the Hamilton Jewish Middle School, most recently as a leader of our breakfast program. Recognizing the need for students to be properly prepared for a day of study, Kathy, on her own initiative and largely with her own funds, arrives early each morning. Quietly, and without fanfare, she prepares and serves a nourishing breakfast of cereal, fruit and milk. She also arranges for games and other age-appropriate activities to engage our students in the time before classes begin.

Kathy says, "You vote in elections once a year but when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in." "I believe," she said, "that if we want a future in which the students of today become the volunteers of tomorrow that it is imperative that we lead by example."

JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTRE **JO-ANN POMERANTZ**



The name Jo-Ann means God's gracious gift. This is so appropriate for our Shem Tov recipient. Jo-Ann has been a gracious gift to the JCC. For the past two years Jo-Ann has dedicated her time every Tuesday to teach the ladies of our community and members of the Centre how to play Maj. Jo-Ann is patient and she has helped to bring new faces to the JCC. We are very lucky to have someone as special as Jo-Ann here every week.

Jo-Ann says, "I volunteer with the JCC because I get a feeling of satisfaction. I enjoy helping people."

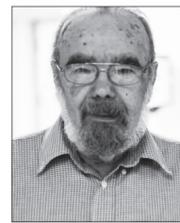
JEWISH NATIONAL FUND **PHIL ROSENSHEIN**



Phil Rosenshein has been a volunteer for the Jewish National Fund for many, many years. Anyone who knows Phil can attest to his persuasive powers when it comes to placing an ad or taking out a sponsorship for the Negev Dinner. A native Hamiltonian, Phil knows almost everyone and is always ready to call the people he knows to get their support for JNF. Over the years, Phil has been a valued volunteer for most of the community's organizations. Phil has a very strong bond and commitment to Israel. For him, the JNF is emblematic of that bond. A past Negev Dinner honouree himself (along with Ben Sauder, z'l), at 89, Phil still feels passion about helping Israel any way he can.

Phil says, "I'm proud of my accomplishments in helping the Jewish community and Israel. I'm especially proud of the fact that my and Ben's name are attached to a special project in Hatzor Hagilalit in Israel. That is the legacy that I want to leave to my children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren."

JEWISH SOCIAL SERVICES **MICHAEL SHER**



Hamilton Jewish Social Services is proud to honour Michael Sher as our Shem Tov nominee. Michael is Hamilton Jewish Social Services' workshop manager. Michael is always willing to help our clients in any way he can. He is also very creative and can fix whatever needs repair at JSS. He is also a champion whistler. Michael immigrated to Canada from the Former Soviet Union (FSU) with his wife and two children. In the FSU he worked as an upholsterer and factory manager. Michael's children are now married and he is a proud grandfather.

KEHILA JEWISH COMMUNITY DAY SCHOOL **RINA RODAK**



Kehila JCDS would like to honor Rina Rodak as our Volunteer of the Year and recipient of the 2012 Shem Tov Award. Rina joined the Kehila family in 2007 and has contributed her creativity of thought and artistic expression selflessly throughout these six years. Her contribution to our board of directors and as the coordinator of major events has been extraordinary. Rina gives her all to every activity she joins. Kehila has benefited greatly from her support, enthusiasm and commitment to academic excellence for her family. Thank you Rina for all that you do for our school.

Rina says, "Volunteering at Kehila is all about making memories for my kids and their classmates. The time and effort that Kehila's parents put into the school is part of what makes Kehila exceptional - it inserts a personal touch from each and every family. I love when my kids recognize the Rodak/Ogus touch in their school day. It makes them very proud."

NA'AMAT HAMILTON **JAN HASTIE**



Jan Hastie joined Na'amat in 1993. Over the years she has been actively involved as a member and as a leader. Jan has served on numerous committees and has assumed leadership roles in programming and fundraising. Jan has been our chapter's president and treasurer - always fulfilling each position with intelligence and integrity. Over the past decade, Jan has served on the National Board of Na'amat. She has participated in leadership seminars in Canada and has travelled to Israel on a leadership seminar to see Na'amat's projects first hand. Jan's generosity toward our group and toward the recipients

of Na'amat's efforts is second to none. We are fortunate and proud to have Jan in Na'amat.

Jan says, "It's been a privilege to work with Na'amat Canada at both the local level with Club Nitsan, and at the national level with the National Board. Na'amat is a wonderful group of talented and creative women dedicated to providing essential services for women and children in Israel. Volunteering with this organization has been a truly rewarding experience for me in so many ways."

SHALOM VILLAGE **SHEILA MANLEY**



Sheila Manley has volunteered at Shalom Village for more than four years. In her multi-faceted role, she has helped numerous staff with clerical work, including recording and analysing volunteer hours and tasks, volunteered at special events and fundraisers such as the Hannukah Hustle and Trinkets and Treasures and she has been an usher for plays put on by the Shalom Village residents. Sheila also assists the frontline staff in our Long Term Care Home by interacting with the residents directly. Sheila feeds our most vulnerable residents who are unable to

eat a meal unassisted as well as takes other residents to the Shalom Village Café, Bubbie Bessie's, to socialize and engage in conversation. Sheila takes the time to sit with the residents and give them her undivided attention. She exudes warmth while stroking residents' hands, smiling and offering kind words and conversation. Sheila is 85 years young and still giving back to her community! It is Sheila's warm and caring nature and willingness to assist with all areas of the organization that make her a vital member of the Shalom Village volunteer team.

Sheila says, "As a member of the Hamilton Jewish community, I want to do my bit in the community. The satisfaction I receive in helping and doing a mitzvah is returned 10 times over! I enjoy the personal and social contact between the people in a closed community. I find this most gratifying when I feed the residents. I understand the benefit of my duty and really feel that I am making a difference. I enjoy building a rapport with the residents. I also enjoy feeling useful! I think the residents feel good seeing people from outside of Shalom Village coming in and showing interest in their wellbeing."

SHA'AREI BETH EL SYNAGOGUE, OAKVILLE **CHERYL NEWBURGH**



Cheryl Newburgh has been a committed volunteer for many years at Shaarei-Beth El congregation of Halton. In recent years, she has found her niche as our interfaith outreach coordinator. In conjunction with the Interfaith Council of Halton and the Halton Multicultural Council, Cheryl has worked tirelessly to teach Judaism to students and adults in our region. Cheryl has helped coordinate region wide events with high schools, to teach them about the various faith groups. Cheryl serves a vital role in community building and interfaith relations. Cheryl volunteers in this capacity with grace and charm, always ready for new probing questions and insightful answer.

Cheryl says, "What does my volunteer commitment mean to me? In a relatively small but very significant way, volunteering brings me closer to my community. I get to understand not only what is going on and the various threads that make up the community, but I get to realize that the very small piece that I play in volunteering, is a microcosm of the greater society at large. There are many different facets to how society functions and without individuals dedicating themselves to various causes, nothing would get accomplished. The actual volunteer work that I do, makes me feel that I am doing something to make this world a better place, a kinder place, a safer place."

TEMPLE ANSHE SHOLOM **DOREEN KORMAN**



Doreen Korman and her family joined Temple Anshe Sholom (TAS) in the mid 1970s and she has set an example of service and commitment ever since. She has served as the Temple's youth advisor, has run the Temple's Deborah Sisterhood Judaica Shop and has been an active member of the Sisterhood, worked alongside her husband Harry at the TAS bingo for many years, served as a member of TAS's board of directors for eight years and has been the indefatigable chairperson and soul of the Temple's caring committee. When she is not busy visiting and helping people, she has also served on the Temple's cemetery committee, ritual committee, inaugurated the Temple's community break the fast dinner on Yom Kippur and has served as a mentor and Yontif Family for many of the members of the Temple's conversion program. At the time of her son Joey's Bar Mitzvah, Doreen facilitated the donation of the Korman family torah scroll to the Temple. Temple Anshe Sholom is truly indebted to Doreen for all of her many efforts and her inexhaustible spirit of caring.

Doreen says, "Temple Anshe Sholom has always accepted me for the person I am and that is so important. The truth is that I am a very selfish person; volunteering simply makes me feel good. It feels good to know that I can make a difference in the lives of others and in the life of the community."