

Dear Sisterhood Member,

Hope 2009 is good to you and yours and all our resolutions are kept, without breaking nary a one!!! Here we are in the New Year, and, hopefully, with a lot of hard work, the outlook for the country, and the world, will be greatly improved. Our new president, Barack Obama, and the team he's assembled, have a long row to hoe to implement the programs necessary for the recovery of which we are in dire need and we wish them Godspeed.

SISTERHOOD

December 18, 2008, saw us celebrate "Pre-Hanukkah" at Ben's Kosher Deli. The weather cooperated as we did not have any of that "white stuff" hinder us, but which did come down very forcefully the very next day! The food at Ben's and the camaraderie were fantastic. New members, old members, long-lost relatives, all joined together for an afternoon of enjoyment. Once again, our thanks to Sol Kofinas for leading us in the candle-lighting ceremony, albeit three days premature! The raffle drawing was a blast...we were all pulling for everyone to "win" a raffle gift, and *almost* everyone did! We extend our heartfelt thanks to those members who were not able to join us, but supported us with their contributions of raffle gifts and generous monetary donations. Hope we can welcome more of you next year! Inshallah!!



☐☐Mark your calendars for Monday, May 11, 2009, for our annual "Monday after Mother's Day" At the Sephardic Home. This is an historic and much-looked-forward-to day, by the residents and Sisterhood members, alike. A delicious luncheon is prepared for us, after which we have a short business meeting before joining the residents for an enjoyable afternoon of music, and, for those of the residents and members who can, traditional Greek dancing. This once-a-year event is an opportunity to visit with our members who are residents and to spread some cheer among all those assembled together.



KKJ

KKJ was privileged to be the setting for the wedding of Lana Soyfer and Stan Mitelman, on November 28, 2008. Though not congregants, Lana and Stan fell in love with KKJ and decided this was where they wanted to get married. They brought in the huppah, rabbi and, following tradition, the glass! It was a beautiful ceremony and the bride and groom were showered with well wishes from family and friends. What a joy it was to see the synagogue aglow for this happy occasion.

To date, we have one more wedding scheduled for our sanctuary – Morris Levy, great-grandson of our former Rabbi Jessula Levy, *of blessed memory*, and his fiancée, Daniella, are planning an August 16, 2009 wedding. Morris is the son of Sisterhood member, April and Dan Levy. We hope and pray that we see this, plus many more such Simchas, in our beautifully restored historic Kehila.



Sunday, December 14th, saw “Koula’s Kitchen” reveal more Romaniote recipes for our eating pleasure. Koula prepared and distributed recipes for baklava, Sophie Cohen’s contribution were Loukumades, fried dough drizzled with honey, and Audrey Mordos treated us to “tiganites” (another fried delicacy, for what is Hanukkah without a fried concoction?) presented, either dipped in cinnamon/sugar, or drizzled with Greek honeycelebrating the ancient miracle of the one day supply of oil that miraculously lasted eight days for the Macabees!!

All recipes for your enjoyment will be on the KKJ website, “kkjism.org”.



The B’rit Milah of Richard Micah, son of Sara & Michael Sherman, grandson of Sisterhood’s member, Gail Nisman, was celebrated at KKJ on Sunday, December 28th. The beautiful baby was a real “soldier” throughout. A delicious collation was enjoyed by family and friends, wishing the family Mazal Tov and Good Health!



DONOR CARD PROGRAM

Our Donor Card program, in addition to our annual dues collection, is our one constant revenue source, and, the backbone of Sisterhood’s income. Our Sunshine Secretaries are waiting...just one phone call is what it takes and they will write out the appropriate card, be it “Get Well”, “In Honor Of” or “In Memory Of”, naming you as the donor, seal, stamp and mail it, for the minimum donation of \$3.00 (of course we accept and *welcome* more). Please participate in our Donor Card Program and help keep Sisterhood in the “black”.

Thank you!

SUNSHINE SECRETARIES

Corrine Levy	3105 Avenue “V” #1D, Brooklyn, NY 11229	(718) 769-3946
Stella Moses	3530 Henry Hudson Pkwy E #7K, Riverdale, NY 10463	(718) 543-8825
Judy Myones	6364 Overland Dr., Delray Beach, FL 33484	(561) 499-8244

CURRENT DONOR CARD SUPPORTERS

Fran & Dave Albahae, Kathy & Maurice Askinazi, Stemma Askinazi, Raanan & Michael Baratz, Ralph Battino & Jackie Andros, Terry & Abe Battino, Esther & Murray Benjamin, Annette Binder, Sherri & Larry Busch, Mollie Cohen, Sue & Nick Cokinos, Belle & Marty Davis, Rose Eskononts, Sandy & Barry Fox, Mae & Zino Gabrielides, Sheila & Ben Gessula, Irene Harris, Marcia Ikonomopoulos, Gail Jenny, Esther Jeuda, Koula & Sol Kofinas, Terry & Sol Lafazan, Corrine Levy, Olivia & Jesse Levy, Marcelynn & Milton Luftig, Sarah Mandragona, Irene & Sol Matsil, Dora Mazza, Shirley Menachem, Stella Moses, Joe Myones, Judy & Eli Myones, Stella Myones, Eva & Max Nachmias, Evelyn Negrin, Esther & Irving Russo, Rose & Larry Salberg, Daisy & Ralph Schaeffer, Renee & Murray Seraita, Audrey Solomon, Linda & David Solomon, Edith Solomon, Rita & Art Taub, Mimi & Murray Vitoulis, Rae Yamali, Esther & Morris Yomtov, Raye & Hy Yomtov, Anita & Jack Zaffos, Bea Zagma.

Thank you All

Sisterhood News

- ~We extend our Sincerest, Belated Condolences to Sophie Beitler on the passing of her husband, Harvey.
- ~Congratulations to Joyce Shapiro's, husband, Al, the Pashas' newly elected president. Mazal Tov!
- ~Deepest Condolences to Rose Salberg & Family on the passing of her husband, Larry.
- ~Congratulations to Sisterhood member, Gail Nisman on the birth of her grandson, Richard Micah, Dec. 20th, 8 lbs., 20½ inches. Proud parents are Sara and Michael Sherman. B'rit Milah was at KKJ on Sunday, Dec. 28, 2008. Mazal Tov to the entire family.
- ~Best Wishes for Good Health to Matilda Besca. Hope she feels better with each coming day.
- ~Best Wishes for Continued Good Health to Morris Yomtov, husband of our long-time member, Esther.
- ~We extend our Gratitude to Max Nachmias on single-handedly running the fabulous Pasha Florida reunions. This year is the 10th and we wish Max and his wife Eva, Good Health, to continue to do this annual event that everyone looks forward to with so much enthusiasm.
- ~Best Wishes for a Speedy Return to Good Health to Esther & Irving Russo.
- ~Best Wishes for Good Health to the Hakim Sisters, Dinah and Celia.
- ~Mazal Tov to Sol & Koula Kofinas on the wedding of their Grandson, Adam, son of Chaim Kofinas. Mazal Tov.
- ~We sadly extend our Sincerest Condolences to Sheila Gessula and family on the passing of her husband, Ben.
- ~Happy Very Special Birthday Wishes to our Brooklyn Sunshine Secretary, Corrine Levy. Many Happy Returns!!

Best Regards,

Rose Eskononts

IOANNINA CEMETERY

We recently learned that a number of tombstones were vandalized in the Ioannina Cemetery, and will cost approx. \$6,000 to restore. Apparently what the vandals were looking for were valuables that might have been buried within. We are once again coming to Sisterhood to open their hearts and wallets to assist the small, Ioannina Jewish community, which numbers approximately 38 elderly survivors of the Holocaust, with this restoration project.

The cost will be shared equally between Sisterhood, KKJ, and the Assoc. of Friends of Greek Jewry.

If you would care to donate to this cause, please make your check out to "Sisterhood of Janina – Ioannina Cemetery" and mail to me: Rose Eskononts, 2430 Haring Street, #3J, Brooklyn, NY 11235 (718) 648-7374.

In Memory of our ancestors buried in the Ioannina Cemetery, I thank you.