

Charlotte Jewish Preschool PTO Works Hard All Year Long

The Parent Teacher organization (PTO) at the Charlotte Jewish Preschool has had a very busy year. With several fundraisers and activities already completed, we are having so much fun planning the upcoming activities to finish this year, as well as for next year.

The PTO has a responsibility to raise a minimum of \$20,000 for the year to help with all the different operating costs at The Charlotte Jewish Preschool. We help augment teacher salaries, building costs, buying supplies and teacher resources, as well as contribute toward student scholarships.

The Charlotte Jewish Preschool PTO is led this year by Co-Presidents Ruthanne Effren and Haley Blanchard along with vice president Susan Shure; Treasurer, Jenn Chapman and Secretary, Kelly Keeling.

The 2007-2008 school year was off to a great start with the selling of Entertainment Books to families here in Charlotte and across the USA courtesy of the Internet. Thanks to all the families at CJP for helping to sell over 350 books. Our annual PTO membership drive was also a success. Compared to last year, we went from 72% participation to over 90% participation from families at CJP. Our annual book fair was held at Barnes and Noble this year and thanks to all the families who participated, we raised over \$1200. Our Hanukkah Bazaar was another success. Parents and children had so much fun buying pres-



Challah Moms Janna Stein and Micaele Bamford.

will have the opportunity to purchase different items (cups, pillowcase, computer pads, seder plates, etc.) showcasing their child's artwork.

In addition to the PTO's focus on fundraising, the PTO is made up of several Committees and Chairpersons to head up weekly and special events. The Pizza Friday volunteers distribute pizza to the children while the challah volunteers fill and distribute challah orders every Friday. There is a Sunshine Committee to welcome new families and new additions to the current families; a Social

ents for their family members and friends.

The Silent Auction, our largest fundraiser, was another success. It was held at the Levine Jewish Community Center in the Samuel Lerner Center for Cultural Arts and what a night it was. With food from Mama Ricotta's, and lots to bid on, it was a night of Winter Wonderland. A special thanks goes out to Kelly Keeling for all her hard work. We raised over \$30,000. Thank you to everyone for coming out to support this wonderful event.

We are working on some special upcoming fundraisers. Our very own CJP Cookbook has arrived and was sold at the Purim carnival and will be sold at CJP for the remainder of the school year. We will also have a fundraiser featuring products sold by Artwear By You. Parents and grandparents



Friday Pizza Helper Tracy Graham.

Committee to get the Mom's together for Mom's Nights Out and to organize other family events; a Newsletter Chairperson to keep the CJP families informed of happenings at CJP, a Purim Carnival coordinator who helps the LJCC plan the Purim carnival, as well as a Book Fair chairperson who sets up the annual book fair. We also have a Teacher

Appreciation committee who plan the end of the year teacher luncheon as well as other events during the year conveying our appreciation for CJP's hardworking staff. Each classroom also has designated Room Parents who work closely with the teachers to help in the communication process between parent and teacher. CJP teachers have a strong commitment to partner with parents to create the best educational setting possible. At

The Charlotte Jewish Preschool our parents are one of our strongest assets.

There are many committed parents and teachers who volunteer their time and the PTO is thankful to all of them for their dedication and hard work.

For more information on the Charlotte Jewish Preschool, please visit www.cjpkids.org.

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Mazel Tov & Congratulations

Barbara Ezring Attends Women's League Leadership Institute

Barbara Ezring of Temple Israel's Sisterhood recently attended the Women's League Leadership Institute held in New York City. Barbara was selected as a candidate for the three-day Leadership Institute based on her volunteer experience, her desire to serve her community, and her participation in Sisterhood. Women's League for Conservative Judaism is the umbrella organization of 600 Sisterhoods in the Conservative Movement, with a membership of 150,000 worldwide.



Sally Abbey, Chair, Terry Winston, Trainer, Margie Miller, Lead Trainer, Barbara Ezring, Cory Schneider, International WLCJ President, Carol Simon, Trainer

Movement, women who are well prepared and Jewishly knowledgeable. "The purpose of the Institute," said Cory Schneider, Women's League International President, "is to strengthen the foundation of leadership in the organization as well as to empower Conservative Jewish women to assume active roles in their communities."

Future Women's League Leadership Institutes are being scheduled. For more information, contact the Women's League office at 800-628-5083. ☆

TOV M'OD
 Jeff Schwartz was named new associate achiever for the Arboretum office of Coldwell Banker United in 2007. ☆

For another community accomplishment, see page 25.

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