

Community News

Levine JCC 2015 Annual Meeting

L'Dor V'Dor in its truest sense was the theme throughout the Sandra & Leon Levine Jewish Community Center's 29th Annual Meeting held October 13. Mike Van Glish, chairperson, welcomed everyone and shared the story of how three generations of the Van Glish family have made the J an important part of their lives socially and athletically. The Annual meeting carried on the LJCC tradition of recognizing LJCC volunteers, staff, and lay leaders for their dedicated service and engaging programs. The evening offered an opportunity to thank outgoing leaders and welcome new ones, including new CEO Peter Blair, wife Traci, and sons Hudson and Cohen.

Rebecca Stern gave an inspiring D'Var Torah, drawing upon Parsha Noach. She reminded us of the vision the founding partners shared for Shalom Park and the J, they like Noah, believed in something others could not envision. Rebecca noted that each generation faces crossroads where they have to envision the future, re-shape and re-imagine the J. She



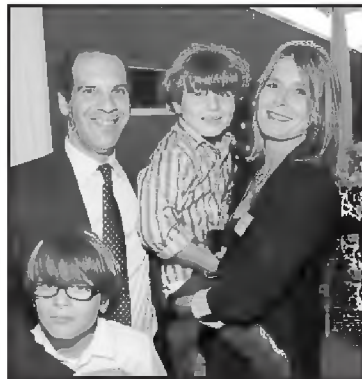
Outgoing LJCC president Elise Kosofsky with incoming president Jon Simon

called for the community to mobilize with Peter to care and nurture those shared dreams.

Outgoing Board Directors David Cohen, Stuart Goldstein, Annie Lord, and Mark Perlin were honored for their service to the LJCC. Each was presented with a beautiful ceramic mezuzah, made in the LJCC pottery studio.

The 2015-2016 Nominating Committee Chair, Scott Menaker thanked committee members Judy

August, Jeff Bierer, George Cronson, Steve Menaker, Jeff Turk, and David Van Glish for their successfully selecting a strong slate of candidates. The Slate of Officers and Directors was presented to and unanimously approved by the general membership: Officers Jon Simon (President), Michael Baumstein (VP), George Cronson (Treasurer), Scott Gorelick (VP), Staci Mond (VP), Jeff Turk (VP), Elise Kosofsky (Past President), and Directors Rick Abrams*, Lauren Althofer*, Brian Bernhardt*, Jonathan Brackis, Jeremy Davids, Julia Greenfield, Don Herbstman*, Raizel Kahn, Jon Kulbersh*, Penny Lipsitz, Gabe Mathless*, Michelle Perlmutter*, Andrew Rosen, Larry Schwartz, Rebecca Stern, Robert Valenstein, David Van Glish, and Evan Weiss* (*New Directors).



LJCC CEO Peter Blair, Traci Blair, Cohen Blair, and Hudson Blair

Levine, Julie and Howard Levine, and Lori and Eric Sklut.

Incoming President, Jon Simon thanked Elise for being a transformational leader for the board through the CEO search. Jon spoke about genuine relationships - "JLationships" - the ones that are forged at the J over time and bound together through experiences - between members, staff

and community. He thanked the staff, members and community for all they do for the J and laid out his vision for the next two years. He will focus upon successfully completing the Capital Campaign, ensuring the next generation of lay leader development, continuing excellent customer service, and enhancing donor recognition through our stewardship program. Jon asked that the community use their relationships to continue to build for the next generation.

Program Service Awards were then presented to the following outstanding volunteers:

Marie Dichoso-Beavers, Beth Goldman, Karen Kaplan, Rebecca Levy, Inna Manoim, and Audrey Pearlman (Aquatics)

Linda Hindel (Tennis)
Mark Freedman (JTribes)

Marc Wojnowich, **Volunteer of the Year**, was introduced by his friend Eric Lerner. Eric noted that Marc was a leader who would not likely describe himself as such.



LJCC CEO Peter Blair, Marc Wojnowich (Volunteer of the Year), Eric Lerner and David Van Glish

Marc has volunteered with the J Charity Golf Tournament, served on the Board of Directors of Federation, their Allocations committee and co-chaired the Bernstein Leadership Group. Marc also created and executed the LJCC Kosher BBQ, an event that is in-

clusive of the entire Jewish community. Marc's legacy of volunteering is one that has been passed down - L'Dor V'Dor. In 1995 his mother, Lori, was recognized as the LJCC Volunteer of the Year.

Mark Perlin, longtime Board member and friend of the J, received the coveted President and Executive Director's Award for being an integral leader of the community and the LJCC. David Van Glish had the privilege of speaking about his father-in-law's many accomplishments as a community volunteer, board member, and past president at Temple Beth El, board member of the LJCC and his key involvement as chairman of the Create Your Jewish Legacy (CJL) for the LJCC. The committee secured 64 legacy gifts to the J creating Mark's own volunteer legacy. This was achieved through his usual formula of partnership, encouragement, and tireless effort.

Peter Blair, CEO, recognized the value, importance, and commitment of the staff in every facet of the LJCC, especially this past year during the transition process. Peter and senior management presented staff awards to the following:

Milestone Anniversaries: Cathy Bennett, Dee Cooper, Kristi Fallowes, Annette Haynes and Missy Schomaker (5 years), Mitch Ormand (15 years), Stephanie Garner (20 years), and Suzie DeSarno (25 years)

Program Service Awards: JChildcare, JTots, and JTeam Departments

Outstanding Program Award: Aquatics Department

Outstanding Employee 2015: Elsa Safir, LJCC Creative Director

Peter Blair, LJCC CEO, shared his vision with the community. It is a vision focused upon relationships. In one section of his remarks, he shared, "When you look at what a successful JCC does at its core - and the Levine JCC is a successful JCC - it builds a community, it builds relationships." He thanked our community for joining with the JCC this past year in relationship. Peter noted, "We continue to be a unique destination for Jewish life, one that celebrates our traditions and diversity, and offers an inclusive entry point for community engagement." He pointed to the future, inviting all community members to join with the JCC as we together "look forward into the coming year as we continue doing what we have been doing for decades, investing in you, investing in relationships."

The LJCC celebrated a wonderful 2015 and looks forward to continuing to provide exciting and innovative opportunities that will strengthen relationships with and among the members of the Charlotte Jewish Community. ✨

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DECEMBER

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