



## President's Message . . .

I would like to thank my board for doing such an outstanding job of organizing and preparing our temple for the High Holidays. It could not have been done without a tremendous effort from the board. Many hours of organizing and behind the scenes work took place to make the High Holidays for the year 5774 such a beautiful experiences.

I also want to thank Dr. Peter Cohen who has made a huge commitment for over 2 decades to the Jewish community in the High Country. Kudos to Jane Pitt for gracing our High Holiday with her gorgeous voice for all of our services. Last but not least, a big thank you to Ken Lurie for his beautiful rendition of Kol Nidre.

Just being president for a few months, I can now truly appreciate what Past President Chuck Lieberman experienced these past 8 years. Chuck did a fantastic job for the past 8 years in steering TOHC through many changes.

As Bonnie Schaffer stated in her Rosh Hashanah speech, we need funds to operate the temple in order to have it meet your needs. I hope you will consider giving a donation, let it be one of the naming opportunities, or to the newly created Rabbi fund.

I truly hope you had a chance to think about the content of my speech, both regarding Change, and Change:

Change is inevitable, and a necessary part of life. Without change there would be no growth. Most of us have a comfort level with stability, but if you have a vision and a plan then change can help you to move in a positive direction. There have been numerous changes at our temple in the past year, and hopefully they have been for the better.

-- To improve is to change; to be perfect is to change often. Winston Churchill.--

Lastly, I hope you remembered the Needs Assessment I mentioned during my Rosh Hashana speech.

*continued on pg 2*

## Sisterhood News . . .

The TOHC Sisterhood begins this new year busy with many temple activities. The holidays were filled with coordinating the Break the Fast and the Sisterhood Shabbat Shuva service. We thank everyone for their delicious

additions and to all who helped with the set up and clean up. We are fortunate to have such wonderful cooks and dedicated members who know how to make our kitchen hum! Wednesdays at the temple are special to many of our

sisterhood members who participate in Carol Ann Mitchell's tai chi class and our sisterhood mah-jongg games. Our sisterhood gift shop is being filled with lovely new items for the home and *continued on pg 2*

### Inside this issue:

President's Message continued	2
Joys, Celebrations and Upcoming Events	2
Sisterhood News continued	2
Torah Scholar	3
Just for Laughs	3
Recipe	3
Rabbi Stephen B Roberts	4

## President's Message continued. . . .

---

Continued from pg 1..

You will be receiving it in the future and please fill it out and send it back to the temple. . Your input is very important to us.

Time Commitment:

Try to carve out some time to assist with the temple and the community that you live in. Even if you are in Florida for part of the year, you can still be involved in committee work via email, telephone, and skype.

Listed below are the names of the organizations in our community that I referred to in my speech that could either use your manpower or donations

or both

Hunger and Health Coalition

Community Care Clinic (free health care for the uninsured)

Hospitality House Homeless Shelter

The Children's Council

OASIS Center for battered women

Watauga Youth Network

Watauga Crisis Assistance Network

WAMI

I personally want to thank each of you who contributed to our food drive for the Hunger Coalition. Your generosity will help to feed the many low-income people here.

I along with Elaine want to wish you a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Skip Rackmill  
TOHC President

## Joys, Celebration and Upcoming Events...

---

This is a reminder of the Warm Outer Clothing Drive, being conducted by the High Country Women's Fund. The Sisterhood of TOHC is helping with this endeavor.

You can drop off clothing (PLEASE ONLY outer clothing) at :

The Temple

My Best Friend's Barkery in Banner Elk (Erika Siegel's shop)

Footsloggers in Boone & Blowing Rock  
Tricia Wilson's law office in Linville.

Our annual Hanukkah Party is going to

be on December 6 at 6PM. Don't forget to bring your Menorah and a delicious parve or dairy dish to share. TOHC will provide latke's and refreshments

A Meaningful Mitzvah. Send your friends and family a card to wish them well or to say congratulations and make a donation to the temple at the same time. All donations, small or large are appropriate and can be made in honor of birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, bar or bat mitzvahs, new baby, wedding etc. A card will be sent to your friend or family member indi-

cating that a donation was made in their honor. No money amount will be specified. Cards can be sent in memory of those who have passed on as well. Donations can be made to the general fund, emergency fund (helps temple members in need), tzedakah fund (provides money to other organizations locally or globally) or the Rabbi fund. A wonderful way to tell someone that you are thinking of them and to support the temple at the same time

## Sisterhood News continued...

---

for Chanukah. Please, take a look the next time you are in the temple. There are still a few bargain items remaining. As we enjoy the beautiful fall in the high country, the sisterhood is planning its winter meetings. We will have a speaker from ASU, Sandra Lubarsky, on Nov. 17 at noon talking with us about "Beauty in Ourselves, Sustainability, and Women in Agriculture."

The earlier meeting time allows members to go the the film series at 2 pm at ASU's Holocaust & Peace Studies Center. We anticipate lots of fun at our annual Chanukah party in Dec. On the wintry days we will be reading a book (to be selected) for our book discussion meeting in Jan. We hope to have a fundraiser in Feb. with our Game Day. The sisterhood is always busy at the

Temple and we hope you will join us for our next activity.

Leigh Girard,  
Sisterhood Co-President

## Torah Scholar . . . . .

---

Next to the menorah, the shofar and the torah, the dreidel is probably the best known Jewish object. On Chanukah, it is customary to play this little gambling game. According to Rabbi B Koller, from Bnai Israel in Charleston, West Va., the dreidel has nothing to do with Chanukah and actually originated from a game which was popular during the Christmas season. In Ireland and England, a popular game called totum or teetotum was created in the 1500s. Many played this game to pass the time during the long winter season. In Eastern Europe, a similar game grew out of this totum and German letters were added to the game. When Jews started playing it, they put Hebrew letters on it and called it a dreidel which in Yiddish means to spin. This word originated from the German word, dre-

hen, which means to turn.

In researching the origin of the dreidel, many Jewish sources state that the dreidel game was popular during the rule of Antiochus. Jews were not free to openly practice their religion, so when they gathered to study Torah, they would bring a top with them. If soldiers appeared, they would hide what they were studying and pretend to be playing a gambling game. So there seems to be a great discrepancy in regard to the origins.

The Dreidel game is very popular during Chanukah and children and adults of all ages enjoy playing the game. There is even a spoof competition in North America each year. The rules are simple: Each player begins with pennies or

chocolate gelt.

Each player puts one penny in the pot before each round'  
Each player spins once and they give or take pennies from the pot  
'If a nun is facing up, the player does nothing  
If a gimel is facing up, the player gets the pot  
If a hei is facing up, the player gets half the pennies in the pot  
If shin is facing up, the player adds a penny to the pot.  
As each player loses all of their pennies, they are out of the game or they can take a loan from another player. After each person is eliminated, the player who is left with pennies at the end of the game is the winner.

So, play on, enjoy and have a happy Chanukah

## Just for Laughs . . .

---

I just got back from a pleasure trip. I took my mother-in-law to the airport.

I've been in love with the same woman for 49 years. If my wife finds out, she'll kill me!

Someone stole all my credit cards, but I won't be reporting it. The thief spends less than my wife did.

The Doctor called Mrs. Cohen saying, "Mrs. Cohen, your check came back." Mrs. Cohen replied, "So did my arthritis!"

A drunk was in front of a judge. The judge says, "You've been brought here for drinking." The drunk says, "Okay, let's get started."

Why do Jewish divorces cost so much? They're worth it.

Why do Jewish men die before their wives? They want to.

Q: Where does a Jewish husband hide money from his wife?

A: Under the vacuum cleaner.

## Vegetable and Feta Latkes

---

### Ingredients

2 1/2 cups grated zucchini  
1 cup peeled and shredded potatoes  
1 cup shredded carrots  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
3 eggs, lightly beaten  
salt to taste  
freshly ground black pepper  
3/4 cup matzo meal  
1/2 cup chopped fresh parsley  
1/2 cup crumbled feta cheese  
1/4 cup vegetable oil

1. Place the zucchini, potato and carrots in a colander, place paper towels or a cheesecloth over the top and squeeze out as much moisture as possible. Sprinkle salt over the vegetables and let them drain for 15 minutes. Squeeze vegetable again in paper towels.  
2. In a large mixing bowl combine eggs, vegetables, salt and pepper. Mix well. Stir in matzo meal or flour, parsley and feta.  
3. Heat vegetable oil in a large frying

pan. Place vegetable mixture, formed into pancake sized cakes in hot oil and fry until golden brown on both sides. (Cook two to three minutes per side). Add more oil as needed to keep cakes frying up well. Drain fried latkes on paper towels.

## Shabbat Services Schedule for the Month of November

Friday November 1st-7:00 PM

Friday November 8th-7:00 PM -Hillel will conduct this service

Friday November 15th-7:00 PM

Friday November 22nd-7:00 PM

\*\*\*Friday November 29th --NO SERVICE--\*\*\*

We are adopting a Winter schedule for Shabbat services, mainly to avoid weekly nighttime driving.

From January through April

Friday night services at 7:00 PM will ONLY be on the First Friday of each month.

All the other weeks of the month- Saturday morning services at 10:30 AM. These services will include a short Torah service.

If you check our website. [www.templeofthehighcountry.org](http://www.templeofthehighcountry.org), you will see the schedule for the current month.



### TEMPLE OF THE HIGH COUNTRY

PO Box 2895  
Boone, North Carolina 28607  
Phone: 828-266-9777

**CHAI TIMES**

**Www.templeofthehigh  
country.org**

## Rabbi Stephen B. Roberts, MBA, BCC

"We are happy to announce that Rabbi Stephen Roberts of NYC has agreed to a one-year contract with TOHC." Rabbi Roberts focus as a rabbi has always been spirituality, with a particular focus on pastoral/spiritual care, health issues, recovery/addictions and disaster response.

Rabbi Roberts was ordained from Hebrew Union College—Jewish Institute of Religion in New York in 1995. He holds the Masters in Business degree from The Wharton School. He studied Food and Resource Economics at The University of Florida's College of Agriculture, receiving his Bachelor of Science degree.

Rabbi Roberts, responding to the 9/11 terror attacks, oversaw the provision of Spiritual Care through national American Red Cross (ARC) in New York City, from 9/11 itself until the operation was completed in May 2002. Over 800 chaplains volunteered under his leadership and direction within ARC during this time. Further, in June 2002, Rabbi Roberts chaired the one day conference: "The Lifecycle of a Disaster: Ritual and Practice – Under-

standing the Impact of the 9/11 terrorist attacks on faith communities and their leaders." Over 700 leaders of faith communities participated, making it one of the largest inter-faith gatherings in New York, post-9/11.

Rabbi Roberts is a Founder and Chairman Emeritus of *Disaster Chaplaincy Services (DCS)*, founded in 2003. DCS is the multi-faith organization which now provides disaster chaplains in the New York area. He is a Past President (2002-2004) of the National Association of Jewish Chaplains (NAJC) and a Board Certified Chaplain (BCC) with the organization. Rabbi Roberts currently serves on the *National American Red Cross President's National Diversity Advisory Committee*.

Rabbi Roberts, upon ordination, was the Coordinator for Jewish Pastoral Care/Staff Chaplain at *New York-Presbyterian Hospital: New York Weill Cornell Medical Center* for almost a decade. During this time, he became acutely aware of the intersection of health, wellness and faith.

Rabbi Roberts was most recently the *New York Board of Rabbis (NYBR)* Associate Executive Vice President and Director: Jack D. Weiler Chaplaincy Program. He was responsible for helping revitalize this 130-year-old organization and making it again a vital part of the New York interfaith religious community.

Prior to his service at the NYBR, he directed the Chaplaincy Department of the *Beth Israel Medical Center (NY)*, overseeing a multi-faith staff of 15 and 10–15 clinical pastoral care education students located on four different campuses.

Rabbi Roberts is the editor of [Professional Spiritual and Pastoral Care: A Practical Clergy and Chaplain's Handbook](#) [SkyLight Paths Publishing; December 2011]. He is also the co-editor of [Disaster Spiritual Care: Practical Clergy Responses to Community, Regional and National Tragedy](#) [Skylights Paths; May 2008], which is the first comprehensive resource for pastoral care in the face of disaster.