

# **DOUBLE TRIANGLE YEAR BOOK**



**2022**  **5783**

**CONGREGATION KOL AMI**

**1008 W. Water St.  
Elmira, New York**

**[kolamielmira.org](http://kolamielmira.org)  
(607) 732-7410**



The Sheldon Herman-  
Minnette Salsburg  
Memorial Award

*Presented to*

John Massey



*In Recognition Of Continuous  
Contributions. Unselfish Dedication.  
And Outstanding Service To  
Congregation Kol Ami  
And The Twin Tiers Jewish Community*



June 28, 2022



# THE DOUBLE TRIANGLE YEARBOOK

A report of the activities and achievements of the organizations of the Jewish Community of Elmira

Elul 5783

Vol 10 No. 1

September 2022

## CONGREGATION KOL AMI EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President.....Susan Cadel  
 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President.....  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President .....Marc Rubin  
 Treasurer.....John Massey  
 Secretary .....Sharon Moore  
 Past President .....Cheryl Miller

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**2022 – 2023** Lee Herbst, Marcia Kesten, Vickie Mike, Liz Walton, Barb Luther  
**2022 – 2024** Marcus Kantz, Teri Doerksen, Andra Frank  
**2022 – 2025** Ted Goldwyn, Beth Herbst, Mike Halperin  
**Sisterhood** Mindy Gaieski  
**Youth Member** Matthias Goldwater

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Archives.....Linda Kaufman  
 Cemetery.....Terri Dobbs  
 Finances.....Susan Cadel  
 Flowers.....Sue King  
 House.....David Siskin  
 Kitchen.....Suzanne Hesselson, Cynthia Massey,  
 Sharon Birdsall  
 Membership.....Sharon Sitrin-Moore  
 Memorials & Honorariums.....Office/TBD  
 Mitzvah.....Gil Sweet  
 Nominating.....Ted Goldwyn  
 Re-Opening Committee.....Lisa Goldberg & Charlotte Kantz  
 Ritual.....Marcus Kantz  
 Scholarship Review.....Susan Cadel & Rabbi Oren Steinitz  
 Jewish Community School.....Lisa Goldberg

## AUXILIARY

Sisterhood Co-Presidents .....Liz Walton and Suzanne Hesselson

## STAFF

Editor - Charlotte Kantz

Anita Adelsberg, Mindy Gaieski, Faith Gray, Sheila Katz, Vickie Mike, Cheryl Miller,  
 Marilyn Rabinowitz, Hilde Robbins and Susan Seltzer

Photography – Marcus Kantz, Ashley Gillan, Gil Sweet

The Double Triangle Yearbook has been published annually by our sisterhood for 73 years.

**This is the twelfth annual Double Triangle Yearbook for Congregation Kol Ami  
 1008 West Water Street, Elmira, New York 14905**



## **IN APPRECIATION**

**From Congregation Kol Ami and the Double Triangle Yearbook Staff**  
we extend our sincere Holiday Greetings and heartfelt appreciation:

**To all individuals**

who have so generously contributed their time, effort, and patronage  
to make this holiday issue of the Double Triangle a success

**Baker Family Funeral Home, Funeral Directors**  
thank you for providing a beautiful calendar  
for all the members of Congregation Kol Ami

The CKA Board of Trustees welcomes the following  
new members to Congregation Kol Ami

Mickey and Martin Freitas

Lisa LaBarre

Jason Hill

# In memory of

## Members who died in 5782

Janice Weisenfeld

Edwin Berman

Ralph Obler

Clay Granoff

## Member's family members who died in 5782

Anatoly Zaborsky

Frima Zonis

Stuart Jay Fishbone

Charlotte Small

Marvin Hass

Larry Greene

Howard (Henry) Firestone

Barbara Massey



# CONGREGATION KOL AMI

## 2022 High Holy Days 5783

### ROSH HASHANAH SERVICES

Evening Service	Sunday, September 25th	7:30 PM
Morning Service	Monday, September 26th ( <i>Tashlich</i> at the Chemung River to follow)	9:30 AM
Morning Service	Tuesday, September 27th	9:30 AM

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### KEVER AVOT— CEMETERY SERVICE

At the Franklin Street Cemetery

Join us to remember your beloved ones at our cemetery—

Memorial Service	Sunday, October 2nd	10:00 AM
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### YOM KIPPUR SERVICES

Evening Service	Tuesday, October 4th	7:30 PM
Morning Service	Wednesday, October 5th	9:30 AM
Afternoon Service	Wednesday, October 5th	4:30 PM
Yizkor and Ne'ila	Wednesday, October 5th	5:00 PM
Fast Ends	Wednesday, October 5th	6:57 PM

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All services will held at Congregation Kol Ami,  
1008 West Water St, Elmira, NY 14905  
and will be broadcasted online—Zoom information to follow.  
COVID Restrictions will be strictly enforced!

Information regarding RH Lunch and YK Break-the-Fast will follow  
and will depend on current COVID restrictions.

לשנה טובה תכתבו ותחתמו

## Rabbi Oren Steinitz



Those of you who peaked into the main sanctuary lately probably noticed that items are moving, carpets are being torn, and in general, that the room is going through massive changes. Thanks to a very generous donation from the late Dr. Ralph Obler and his family, as well as the Weisenfeld family, the Baker Fund and other generous donors, the sanctuary is being completely renovated, along with a new carpet, new comfortable chairs, air handlers that will provide us with fresh air, as well as screens and cameras that will allow us to keep offering hybrid (“Room and Zoom”) services that will allow our entire CKA family, near and far, to participate in our celebrations and observances. Our goal is to have everything done well before the High Holy Days, when we will be able to once again gather together in our own space.

We all know that this renovation is coming in due time. We all noticed that after decades of use, the carpets are torn, the seats are no longer comfortable (and some of them are just plain broken), and I hope we can all agree that fresh air is pretty important... We are also very grateful to all the generous donors who made these renovations possible, and to the House Committee who did all the leg work. However, I am also confident that once the renovations are complete, we will step into the sanctuary and think “it’s beautiful, but it’s just not the same.”

Humans are funny creatures. We are all creatures of habit, and we all cling to things that are well past their prime, but provide us with so much comfort. We all have that one sweatshirt in our closet that went through so many wash cycles it completely lost its color, shape, and size, but we refuse to throw it out. For many of us the synagogue, and Judaism in general, provide that comfort of a worn-out sweatshirt. Intellectually we know that Judaism evolves, and that the only reason Judaism managed to survive throughout the generations is change and adaptation. Emotionally, we still crave our grandma’s matzah ball soup (even if we’ve tasted better ones), the smell of an old tallis that has been in the family for generations, and the cheesy, over-used tune that our childhood cantor used for that one prayer. We also hold a special place in our hearts for the uncomfortable pews that threatened to collapse every time we sat down.

What can we do with these feelings? How can we embrace a newly renovated sanctuary, when the old one was home for so many memories? The answer is simple – create new memories. Just like a new tune for *l’cha dodi* magically becomes “the traditional melody” after singing it three or four Friday nights in a row, the new sanctuary will become our new home after we use it a few times. So let’s create some new memories together!



**Cemetery Committee**

We continue to work at cleaning and tidying up the cemetery. Removing some fencing to enable easier access for future burials. Also moving and reusing gates at the oldest entry on Franklin Street. We had 5 burials this past year. Due to the draught, it has been very hard to get grass growing. Hopefully this fall will be kinder. Next project that's under way is fixing stones that have either fallen over or will soon fall over. I have been working with Sharon from George Hoare memorials on this.

**Etrog & Lulav**

We urge as many of you as possible to obtain your own Etrog and Lulav set. The synagogue will try to contact all those for whom we ordered a set last year, but we urge you to contact the office to inform us of your wishes. Please call 607-732-7410 between 9 am and 4 pm Monday through Friday.

**Honorariums and Memorials**

Dear Friends,

Your membership contribution is greatly appreciated, but it is also important for a balanced budget of CKA that the membership contribute also by purchasing honorariums and memorials throughout the year. For more information call the CKA office.

**Endowments**

Menorah of Recognition

Chai	\$ 1,800
Double Chai	\$ 3,600
Triple Chai	\$ 5,400
Gold Endowment Card	\$ 72
Silver Endowment Card	\$ 54
Blue Endowment Card	\$ 36

**Donations**

Bar & Bat Mitzvah Plaque	\$ 100
Scroll of Life	

Sapphire Plaque	\$ 150
Pearl Plaque	\$ 125
Shabbat Prayer Book	\$ 36
High Holyday Prayer Book	\$ 65
Etz Hayim	\$ 72
Yahrzeit Plaque	\$ 500
Cemetery Granite Benches	\$ 2,500

We thank all of you who have contributed so generously during this past year. Our very best to all for a Healthy and Happy New Year. May you and your families be blessed with good health always.

**Scrip**

We continue to have success in selling our scrip (gift cards) from the main grocery chains in the area, Wegmans, Tops and Weis markets. The easy way to raise money for Congregation Kol Ami is by purchasing grocery scrip. Contact the office for information or buying. We need your support. The profit from each sale is 5%. The best business is repeat business.

**Expanded Scrip**

Twice a year we have an expanded scrip sale. We purchase, preordered by you, gift cards from most every place imaginable for your use. We make various amounts depending on the store. It ranges from 2% to 9%.

**Sisterhood**

2021 – 2022 (5782) has been a year of creating a “new normal” dealing with life with the ever present threat of COVID.

Throughout the year, we kept in mind our mission as stated in our bylaws. “The purpose of the Sisterhood of Congregation Kol Ami shall be to foster and maintain the ideals of Judaism. Sisterhood shall promote fellowship among its members and support religious, social, educational, and communal activities of the congregation”.

We strove to continue events and programs while dealing with the COVID restrictions imposed in an effort to keep everyone healthy while COVID



cases continued to soar in our region. To allow us to stay engaged as a Sisterhood and Congregation, the following is a recap of our successes:

**September 16, 2021** Yom Kippur Break the Fast – Our first “to-go” bags were provided due to the requirement of wearing masks inside. Everyone could enjoy a Break the Fast safely at home prepared by the Sisterhood.

**September 23, 2021** Opening Meeting – Celebrating the resilience of women. We heard from two local women entrepreneurs about their business ventures. Sara Caldwell, owner of Downtown Grind and Global Taco shared how she maneuvered a small business during the restrictions of COVID. Jessica Drehmer shared with us about Trades of Hope, a certified fair trade company partnering with women here and around the world to help them better their lives through sale of their crafts. We enjoyed buying some of the jewelry made in Africa, such as bracelets with beads made from cereal boxes! Due to COVID, we met both in person wearing our masks and on Zoom. Those who came in person enjoyed refreshments to go because we can’t get together and not include food!

**November 20, 2021** Trivia Night – Back by popular demand. The co-emcees were John Goldman and Scott Moore. The Western theme for the night seemed appropriate since we had to wear masks! Most people came in costume and prizes were given for a variety of categories from best costume to best trivia answers!

**January 14, 2022** Sisterhood Shabbat – We decided to have a Zoom Only Service since COVID cases were on the rise in the southern tier. We had women participate from far and wide. One of our most long standing members, Harriet Hesselson, age 98, did a reading from Florida as well as two of our newer members, Ashley Gillan and Marcia Kesten.

**June 7, 2022** Donor Dinner / Annual Meeting – We were very excited to end our year by returning to an in person Donor Dinner. This was last done in 2019 prior to COVID. We enjoyed good food and company as well as a wonderful presentation by Jenny Monroe portraying Margaret Sanger allowing us a glimpse into her incredible life.

The other major focus of the CKA Sisterhood is to support the congregation financially. This past

year we contributed \$4,500. We continued our fundraising activities which included Double Triangle, Challah Sale, Gift Shop, Preserves Sale and Greeting Card Sale. The traditional Jewish Food Festival was transformed to a Nosh of the Month sale due to COVID. The entire community looked forward to buying their special treat every month enjoying the following items from the Jewish Food Festival menu:

September—Kugel

November—Chocolate Babka

December—Rugelach

March—Hamantaschen and Mixed Berry Jam

April—Challah and Macaroons

May—Chocolate Babka

June—Blintzes

July—Bourka

August—Deli Sandwiches

It was an enormous undertaking serving the needs of our bodies and souls through food. A big thank you to the Jewish Food Festival Committee of: Anita Adelsberg, Sharon Birdsall, Lisa Goldberg, Faith Gray, Suzanne Hesselson, Sheila Katz, Linda Kaufman, Sue King, Barb Luther, Cynthia Massey, Jeff Sigel, Paul Solyn, Gil Sweet, Harriet Sweet, Tobi Thornton, Liz Walton and Annie Werner

We want to thank the amazing women who serve as officers who worked so hard this past year:

#### Sisterhood Board

Co-President	Suzanne Hesselson & Liz Walton
Treasurer	Cynthia Massey
Recording Secretary	Vickie Mike
Corresponding Secretary	Mindy Gaieski
Membership Committee	Andra Frank & Marcia Lenhardt
Programming Committee	Sharon Moore & Adar Steinitz
Events Committee	Roz DuBois & Charlotte Kantz
Fundraising Committee	Harriet Sweet & Annie Werner
Past President	Faith Gray

La Shana Tova. May we all have a blessed and healthy new year.

Suzanne Hesselson and Liz Walton  
CKA Sisterhood Co-Presidents

### JCF Movies

The JCF provided the following movies:

Asia

The Ark

Latter Day Jew

Fiddler

Miracle of Miracles

Hidden Figures

### Jewish Community School Report

The JCS had a hybrid year in 2021-22 in several ways. We began the year with Cantor Abbe Lyons as head of the school and Mrs. Beth Daskin as teacher. Mid way through the year, Cantor Lyons asked to be allowed to resign so she could devote more of her attention to her teaching responsibilities at Aleph. Mrs. Daskin assumed full responsibility of the school in January. Meanwhile, Covid conditions had school outdoors in the fall, online in the winter, then in person at the end of the year. What a year! The JCS Board is grateful for the extraordinary professionalism shown by Mrs. Daskin throughout.

Charlotte Kantz



Tina, Fran, & Sharon  
**Central to all our activities!**

# Setting Up for the High Holy Days so warmly hosted by First Presbyterian Church



Command Central  
for online zoomers

# Tashlich at the Chemung River



# Preparing Nosh of the Month



# Masked Desperadoes at Trivia Night answer our wild west questions



# Our mitzvah crew prepares bag lunches at the Elmira Community Kitchen



# Nava Tehila provides a wonderful evening of Jewish music





## Sisterhood's Donor Dinner brings us together again!



Jenny Malone  
provided a terrific talk  
on Margaret Sanger

Removing the dedication plaques  
before the pews and carpet are removed.





## Elmira Friends

(we raised our families in Elmira in the 1980's- 2000's)

## Alone, Together



We wish all our friends and family around the world, a  
Happy, Healthy. Safe, Peaceful and Environmentally clean  
New Year  
L'SHANA TOVA

## Happy Holidays!

Marcia and Terry Lenhardt

Melissa, Jeremy, Harrison and  
Louie Witt

Lindsay, Matthew, Eleanor and  
Thea Latham

Shana Tova U'metuka!

The Herbst Family:  
Lee, Beth, Gabe and Brandon



May our Kol Ami family be  
inscribed for a good year.  
Sincere best wishes for your health,  
happiness, and contentment  
throughout the coming year.

The Siskins



With warmest good  
wishes to all for a  
happy, healthy, and  
peaceful New Year

Sue Jacobson

**L'SHANAH TOVAH TIKATEVU  
V'TAIHATEM!**

**MAY YOU BE INSCRIBED AND  
SEALED FOR A GOOD YEAR!**

**HERMAN, MICHELLE, MOLLIE,  
& MARGAUX BERLISS**

Shana Tova - Wishing all  
a Happy and Healthy New Year  
- Marjorie Hamilton & Lee Kosow



*A Very Happy  
New Year from  
Roz and Dick DuBois*

L'shono Tovo  
from Dr. and Mrs. Alan,  
Steven, and Amanda  
Etkind

Happy New Year  
from the  
Doerksen-Goldwater  
Family

*Greetings*  
from the Steinmetzes

*Wishing The Elmira, Corning, and Penn-York  
Jewish Communities A Happy and Healthy New Year*

Bob & Carla; Gordon, Rachel, Bayla, Ruby & Harrison Cohen;  
Lauren, Nicole, Eva, Asher, Edith, Henry, Sam & Oscar Cohen;  
Becky Cohen, Ming, Esther & Gussie Gong.

Michael and Susan German  
Wish You a Happy  
and Healthy New Year!

Shana Tovah  
from Tobi, Levi,  
and Julian

*Happy and Healthy  
New Year from*

L'Shana Tovah -  
Happy and Sweet  
New Year

John Goldman and Liz Walton



*the Gray Family*

Maddy and Larry  
Dolkart & Family

Geoffrey S. Rubin wishes Kol Ami  
continued success.

## A Happy & Healthy New Year from

The Hesselson Family  
The Ginsburg Families

The Falek Family  
The Dembo Family



*Holiday Greetings  
from the  
Chernosky Family*

**L'Shana Tovah!  
Best Wishes**

Jeffrey & Sheila Katz

Jared Katz

Gabriel, Tiffany, Maya, Jonah & Rocco Katz

Anita Passman

L'Shana Tovah -  
Happy and Healthy  
New Year!

Cheryl, Pam, Max,  
and Shayna Miller

*Happy New Year*  
*Linda Kaufman*  
*and*  
*Family*

**Best Wishes**  
 from  
 Nancy Nicastro



**Wishing You**  
**a Happy and Healthy**  
**New Year**

**Ann & Jeff Sigel**

**Taffy, Adam, Isaac &**  
**Aiya Sigel**

**Sloane and James**  
**Abramczyk**

*Best wishes for a*  
*Happy New Year from*  
*the Rabinowitz family*

*Alex, Marilyn, Jeff,*  
*Marie, Andrew,*  
*Susanna*

L'Shanah Tovah  
 Happy New Year

Dian Gerstel  
 Camille Gerstel  
 Deborah Gerstel

Jennifer Gerstel & Eric, Jacob, Kyle Samson  
 Vickie Feldman & Brian Gerstel

*L'SHANAH TOVAH!*

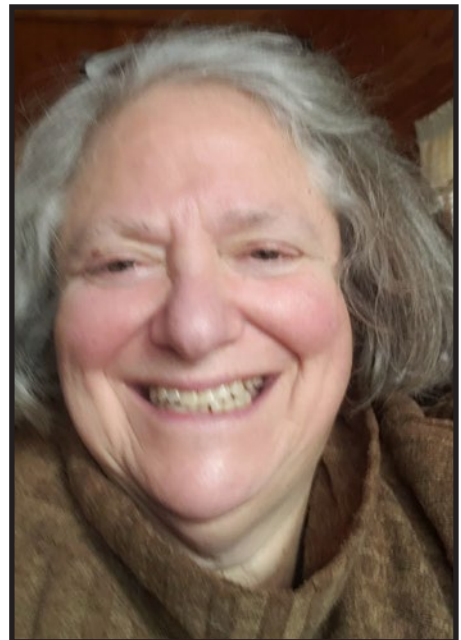
*WE WISH YOU ALL THE BEST IN 5783.*

MARCUS AND CHARLOTTE KANTZ

Shana Tova

from  
Anders, Alison,  
and Edith Korn

Best wishes and Happy New Year  
to all the Kol Ami family,



from Ronnie Schenkein





Best wishes  
for a happy &  
healthy New Year  
from the entire  
Sweet family!

L'shana tovah from  
the Goldwyn family!

May it be a sweet year.

May 5783 keep  
you happy  
and healthy.

The Dobbbs  
Family

Shanah tovah  
um'tukah.

Vickie Mike

*Happy and Healthy  
New Year from  
Carole Hoffman  
and Family*

Ruth and Seymour  
Kornfeld's children,  
grandchildren &  
great-grandchildren  
- 64 - wish you a  
Happy New Year  
5783.



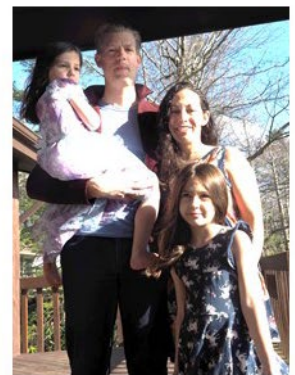
L'Shana Tova  
to our friends and family



With all our love for a sweet, happy and healthy New year

The Friedman's  
Ron and Gloria

Ilene, Keegan, Nava, and Orli  
Jonathan, Jessica, and Elliott



# Happy New Year

Cynthia & John Massey

Shivani, Steven & Jay Massey

Liz, Alex, Katie & Adah Massey

Becca & Alex George

Ben Massey

David Massey



*L'Shana Tova and  
many, many blessings  
for the new year!*

*Ashley Gillan*

# Happy New Year

Lynn and Mike Lloyd

Matthew Lloyd and Minnie Latham

Elizabeth, Paul, Ethan and Riley Mongiovi

Pauline Rosenblatt

David Rosenblatt

Rachel Rosenblatt

Jonathan, Naomi, Orly and Eden Rosenblatt

In Loving Memory of Lauren Rosenblatt

In Loving Memory of Blache and Arnold Rosenblatt

In Loving Memory of Joyce Lloyd

## L'Shanah Tovah!

Anita & Lee Adelsberg  
 Julie, Bob, Sammy, and Molly Cohen  
 Gordon Adelsberg  
 Dan, Jill, Sofia, and Leo Adelsberg



## L'SHANAH TOVA:

ANDRA FRANK, ALYN,  
 ANDREW, SPOUSES,  
 GRANDCHILDREN, &  
 GREATGRANDS

*Happy New Year  
 from Hilde Robbins  
 and family*

## MYRA & JERRY STEMERMAN

MARC, TRACEY, CHLOE, JACK,  
 HARPER, & MONROE STEMERMAN  
 SADIE & MAX NORMAN

**HAPPY and HEALTHY NEW YEAR**

DAVID, GILA, SAM, CAROLINE  
 & CHARLIE STEMERMAN

PERI, JIM, ALEXANDER KUTCHIN  
 ZACHARY & BECCA KUTCHIN

L'Shana Tova from the family  
of the late Fay & Frank Levine.

Linda Levine Fox Family

Best wishes for a great New Year  
from the Werner Family

From L to R: Ben, Tara, Dean, Eryn and Milo,  
Nathan, Margot, Annie, Cherie and Jacob



L'Shanah Tovah

The Champion Family

L'Shanah Tovah to all, and a healthy 5783!

- Marcia Kesten & Alice Moyer





May 5783 begin a year of healing for our earth and all beings therein, with cherished blessings for everyone at CKA.

The King and Brysk Families

**L'Shana Tovah - Happy and Sweet New Year**

Mindy and Joe Gaieski

Shanah Tovah  
U'metukah

from Marsha Stemerman

*Happy New Year*

*from Rhoda Kaplan  
and Family*

**THE SELTZER FAMILY WISHES  
EVERYBODY A HAPPY AND  
HEALTHY NEW YEAR.**



Wishing Everyone a Happy and Healthy 5783  
L'Shana Tov

Susan, Jeff, Eileen, and Melissa Cadel

*Happy and Healthy  
New Year!*

*Ed, Carol, Beverly,  
Olivia, Isabelle, and  
Brittany Braunstein*

Happy New Year  
from  
Rachelle Lerner

Wishing all of you  
Shana Tova U'metuka!



Rabbi Oren, Adar,  
Eytan & Eliana Steinitz