

A publication by the
Workmen's Circle Educational
Center of Ohio

Klezmer Orchestra Invited to One-World Celebration

CLEVELAND, OH - This year the Workmen's Circle Klezmer Orchestra was honored to be invited to participate in the One World Day celebration hosted by the Cleveland Cultural Gardens. Our famous orchestra led by the talented Norman Tischler, was able to perform a full set alongside some of the most popular musical groups in Northeast Ohio. Executive Director, Matt Greminger along with our Office Manager, Stacy Spetrino tagged along with a video crew to film a video which featured the Klezmer Orchestra performing as well as several interviews. The video also spotlighted some of the fun activities at the event. The video can be seen online at our website: www.WorkmensCircle.org



We would like to congratulate long-time volunteer,



Tiffany Crocket on being named Volunteer of the Month this November. Tiffany is one of the most kind and friendly people you'll ever know. Her volunteer services have been invaluable to our organization and the love she shares with all of our staff, clients and pantry food recipients is second to none. We name her Volunteer of the Month as a small token of our gratitude for all of the good she does.

PRESIDENTIAL INTRO HITS CLOSE TO HOME

Article by Matt Greminger

SOUTH EUCLID, OH - Despite half our nation's recent disappointment with the results of the 2016 Presidential Election, we wanted to shine some light on a positive piece of the campaign process that hit close to home, literally. Workmen's Circle contributor, avid Hillary Clinton supporter, and owner of the popular Coffee Phix Café at Mayfield and Green Road in South Euclid, Jackie Larkins sat down with me a week before the notorious Trump victory to speak to me about one of the greatest honors she was awarded several weeks prior. Like many others across the country, Jackie was a volunteer for the Clinton campaign; but unlike most of those other volunteers, Jackie had a bit more to offer. A 20 year retired USA Navy Veteran, Jackie brought her incredible passion for our country, her advocacy for women and human rights and her love for family run small businesses to the table as a platform to help the campaign efforts by not only offering assistance, but by telling her story. After reaching out to the Clinton campaign with an offer to help in any way she could, Jackie was contacted about utilizing her coffee shop as an occasional call-center/canvassing location. A request that she humbly accommodated. Campaign folks setup shop three days a week; Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. As her location quickly became a hotspot for campaign supporters,



Jackie Larkins with Ted Danson and Mary Steenburgen at Coffee Phix

Jackie expanded her efforts by hosting debate-viewing events in her coffee shop. These events were open to anyone in the neighborhood who wished to attend. Not long after, her events and her story fell upon the ears of several major names who not only applauded her in her efforts to help



Jackie Larkins introducing President Obama at Burke Lakefront Airport in support of Hillary Clinton campaign on October 14, 2016.



her candidate, but also decided to join Jackie in making her efforts as successful as possible. The Clinton campaign produced a video commercial on facebook talking about Jackie and her story and to help support her small business and its growth. Several big names, including the talented actors Ted Danson and Mary Steenburgen came in to campaign for Hillary and support the effort Jackie was putting forth. As time went by and progress was made, the end of the election began to draw near. It was at this time that Jackie received a phone call that would change her life forever. "I got a call and they told me that the President was going to be in town and asked me if I would like to make a speech", Jackie said. "I have a President crush on Barack so how could I refuse something like that". She told us that she assumed that the speech would be about her support for Hillary Clinton and small businesses and so she happily agreed. "They then had a speechwriter contact me to ask me a few questions which they then used to help formulate the speech I would give." She stated. "When I received the final speech back, it was Thursday; that's when I found out I would actually be *introducing* the President; and this would happen on Friday, the next morning" After receiving the email and confirming with campaign members, Jackie set out some complimentary coffee and left her shop in the hands of the Clinton campaign folks so that she could go home and get enough rest to be on her best for the President. Rest she admits, never really happened. "Of course I didn't get a good night's sleep, I knew I was meeting the President the next day", she said. "The next morning when I arrived, I had a chance to take my picture with Barack, and I got to spend about five minutes alone with him before I gave my speech", she said, "I wanted to say something memorable, but I was awestruck to say the least. He told me not to be nervous and to go out there and 'do my thing'" Jackie told us that before she stepped away from the President, she got to do something she's always wanted to do. "I did also hug him on my way out, and I snuck in a little kiss on his cheek" she admits. The video recording of Jackie's speech and introduction of President Obama was viewed nearly four thousand times from our Facebook page and shared over one hundred. Since she had been referring to him as Barack during the course of our conversation with her, we asked if they are now on a first name basis. Her reply: "If you ever kiss the President of the United States, you can call him Barack too".



High Holiday Observation Brings Hope for New Year.

Our High Holiday observation this year was as beautiful as always. This year, for a bit of a change, our services led by Lori Cahan-Simon and Todd Packer were also live-streamed on Facebook for those stationed overseas as well as those with physical restrictions, in an attempt to make our services accessible to all. These emotional and inspiring services touched the hearts of all that attended, both in person and online. After the services concluded, a recording of our live-streamed event was made available for viewing on the Workmen's Circle's Facebook page. We are pleased to report that the Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services reached nearly 1,700 people through our live-stream. The services are still accessible on our Facebook page for all to experience.

Painting & Crochet Classes

Since our last edition of the Schmooze News, our organization has hosted several artistic events. A painting class held by Lori Cahan-Simon and a Crochet & Knitting class held by our office manager Stacy Spetrino. Both courses have growing attendance and are gaining in popularity. The crochet courses are \$5/class and the painting classes are \$35/class at the door, \$25/class if tickets are purchased in advance on the Workmen's Circle website. The Crochet, Knit & Kibbitz classes have begun live-streaming their events on Facebook for all to enjoy.

Yiddish Classes Sign-Up

The Workmen's Circle Educational Center is looking for those interested in attending Yiddish Classes. If you would like to sign-up, please call our office or email Matt@WorkmensCircle.org.

A BLAST FROM THE PAST: A STUNNING WORK OF ART

Over 10 Years of Creating Led To An Incredible Working Display

Article by Stacy Spetrino

MAYFIELD, OH - Howard Jacobs joined The Workmen's Circle Klezmer Orchestra several months ago. He plays the piano and the keyboard, but not only is Howard a talented musician, outside of playing in several bands, Howard has another hobby. After meeting with Howard in his home and learning about his passion, I was so fascinated by the interesting conversation about his hobby that I felt the need to share it. Howard has been working on a 1952 replica of Downtown Cleveland on and off for over ten years. When Howard retired from being a fifth grade teacher in Mentor, he decided to explore his love for trains more in depth. He read about the 1952 Parade of Progress which was the last time that street cars traveled Euclid Avenue. Howard and his neighbor built a table that he saw in a train magazine. He then found photos of Downtown Cleveland from 1952 and thus began to build his replica. Howard used kits for most of the buildings but some of them like Terminal Tower, he had to build on his own. Howard added street cars that actually move forward and backward on the tracks. He also added benches, trees, people, billboards and working street lights. As Howard continues to work on his replica, he also continues to bring joy to people through his music. Howard is such a fascinating person and I greatly enjoyed learning more about him and his wonderful hobby. I hope that you enjoyed this story as well.



Howard Jacobs standing with his incredible 1952 Cleveland Replica. (photo: Stacy Spetrino)

Fun at South Euclid's Rock The Block Festival

We were excited to be able to be a part of South Euclid's 2nd Annual 'Rock the Block' festival this year. Local organizations & businesses lined the South side of Mayfield road between Belvoir and South Green Road, and neighbors from all around our community came out to enjoy the festivities. Matt Greminger and Stacy Spetrino, together with their families, setup a booth to meet up with members of our community and spread the word about our new programs and progress. Although very hot, the event was spectacular. We were able to meet with so many of our neighbors who were once active with our organization and many who weren't, but were interested in becoming so.



The Greminger and Spetrino Families with South Euclid Mayor Georgine Welo

SILENT AUCTION SUCCESS WITH NEW FORMAT



On June 15th we held our 9th annual live auction fundraiser. With dozens of local businesses, organizations and service providers donating wonderful and unique items to this year's event, our turnout was phenomenal. Instead of a traditional auction like we've had for the previous 8 events, this year we

decided to change the style and venue a bit. This year, our auction was a Silent Auction held at Landerhaven Executive Center. The event included a 3-courch luncheon, a live performance by the talented Caleb A. Wright, and a series of raffles along with the silent auction that took place throughout the event. With over 70 people in attendance, we are pleased to announce that this auction was able to generate nearly ten times the amount we have typically generated at this yearly event.

REMEMBERING THOSE WHO MOVED ON THIS YEAR

As the Jewish New Year came upon us we met with members and loved ones at the Workmen's Circle Cemetery in Parma for our annual memorial services. We take this time to remember those we've loved and lost in the past year and in years gone by. A beautiful



Board Chairman Jack Greminger (far left), Todd Packer (center left), and Executive Director Matt Greminger (right)

service led by Todd Packer and board Chairman Jack Greminger spoke about the legacy our departed loved ones leave within us as an eternal force guiding our lives and a way of remembering that their spirit never really leaves us, only their body. Our organization planted a new tree in the cemetery dedicated to the late Sam Weisberg who served as Vice Chairman on our Board of Directors for many years. Our new stone walk was also mentioned as it is growing and custom memorial bricks are available. (see page 4)

Anyone Can Paint

We provide you with everything you need to
PAINT YOUR OWN MASTERPIECE

The \$35 cost includes:

- * INSTRUCTION
- * ALL MATERIALS TO COMPLETE A BEAUTIFUL PAINTING
- * AND REFRESHMENTS

Bring your friends

Have some FUN

And join us for

PAINT 'N' SHMOOZE

with our marvelous instructor

LORI CAHAN-SIMON,
M.A. Art Education.



A PORTION OF THE TICKET COST IS A TAX
DEDUCTIBLE DONATION TO THE WORKMEN'S CIRCLE
EDUCATIONAL CENTER.

WHEN

Wednesday, December 21st
6:30pm - 8:30pm

WHERE
Rockefeller Pointe Building
(NW Corner of Mayfield and Lee)
2490 Lee Blvd. Third Floor (Ste 321)
Cleveland Hts, OH 44118

Get Your Ticket TODAY

by calling our office @ (216) 381-4515 - Visiting us online @ www.WorkmensCircle.org
or emailing us @ Circle@WorkmensCircle.org

Crochet, Knit &



Kibbbitz

presented by
The Workmen's Circle
Educational Center of Ohio

Hosted by
Stacy Spetrino

ALL LEVELS OF
CROCHETERS & KNITTERS WELCOME

EVERY 2ND & 4TH THURSDAY

\$10/PER SESSION

This covers the cost of the included yarn & needles.

FROM 6PM - 8PM

@ Rockefeller Pointe Building
in Cleveland Heights
(Mayfield and Lee)

HELPING THOSE IN NEED

ATTENDEES WILL HAVE THE OPTION TO DONATE THEIR CREATIONS TO
CHILDREN IN NEED AT RAINBOW BABIES & CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL



CALL TODAY TO BOOK YOUR SEAT...

(216) 381-4515

WORKMEN'S CIRCLE MITZVAH PANTRY

Our Mitzvah Food Pantry annually provides
over 50,000 nutritious meals to those in
need of assistance in our community.

Mitzvah Food Pantry Pick Up Hours

Mon, December 19 - Produce Distribution
(12:30pm - 3:00pm)

Tue, December 20 - Pantry Open Hours
(10:00am - 2:00pm)

Wed, December 21 - Pantry Open Hours
(10:00am - 2:00pm)

Thur, December 22 - Pantry Open Hours
(10:00am - 2:00pm)

Fri, December 23 - Pantry Open Hours
(10:00am - 2:00pm)

Serving those in need of these services in the
following zip codes:

44106, 44110, 44112, 44118,
44121, 44124 & 44143

Photo ID and proof of residence is required.

CALLING FORMER SHULE MEMBERS

We want to have a 'Shule Reunion' sometime in January / February and wanted to
reach out to those who may have attended the Workmen's Circle Shule on Green Road
when they were younger.

If you were a student or a
parent and used to be a
part of those wonderful
days, please contact us by
phone at (216) 381-4515 or
email Matt at
Matt@WorkmensCircle.org
as he is working with
former Shule members
now to setup a date for the
event.



LIPA SCHMELTZER DELIVERS LIVELY PERFORMANCE



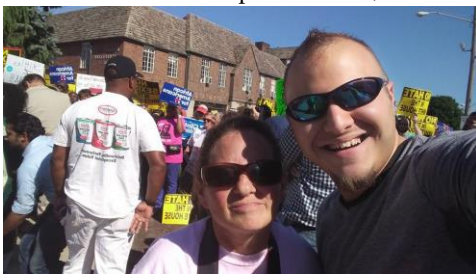
After a year of preparation and a packed crowd of nearly a thousand Clevelanders, this year's Yiddish Concert was a great success. Our dynamic and energetic performer Lipa Schmeltzer came in from New York to grace us with his lively musical talents. "It was incredible", said a young boy from the crowd after experiencing Lipa's music for the first time. During the event, the energy and emotion Lipa displayed was only rivaled by his very clear passion for the songs he performed. Toward the end of the performance, Lipa invited all of the children in the audience on stage to join him in dancing and singing to a medley of Yiddish translated versions of popular children's songs (pictured above). After the event, an after-party was held for Lipa and members of the Workmen's Circle and Yiddish Concert Committee. We joined Lipa at the party to congratulate him on such a wonderful performance and invite him to come back and visit us whenever he is able.



Singer and Performer Lipa Schmeltzer on stage at the Evans Amphitheater at Cain Park for the 2016 Workmen's Circle Free Yiddish Concert in the Park.

TRUMP'S PRE-WIN VISIT TO CLEVELAND HEIGHTS

With the madness of the Presidential election season behind us, some of our nation excited about the outcome and some very worried. To take a step backward a couple months, Office Manager Stacy Spetrino and Executive Director Matt Greminger took a few hours to study the effects of a Trump visit on Cleveland. On September 21st, Donald Trump along with now vice-president elect Mike Pence



visited Cleveland Heights and spoke at the Civic Center directly across the street from our offices here at the Workmen's Circle. While there, Greminger and Spetrino walked through the crowd of supporters and protesters outside of the Civic Center; talking to folks from both sides of the isle about their views, their vision and their predictions. Afterward, Greminger released several photographs of the event on Facebook, with a hopeful and inspiring message attached. The message read:

"Regardless of my personal political views, I was so happy to see that both Clinton and Trump supporters were kind to one another and peaceful. Trump folks advocating, Clinton folks protesting, and only 150 feet from where The Donald was speaking. (It was) Peaceful, non-violent, informative and refreshing to see that once again, Cleveland sets an example for the rest of the world."

After the event, both supporters and protestors cleaned up after themselves and left our community just the way it was prior, but maybe with a bit more hope and tolerance in our hearts.

A TYPICAL JEWISH CHRISTMAS EVE: BRING THE FAMILY

This year, our organization decided to have a bit of fun with friends on a day that most of us are chowing down on Chinese food anyways. The Workmen's Circle will be hosting a First-Night Chanukah / Christmas Eve party on, you guessed it, the first night of Chanukah (and Christmas Eve of course). Tickets much be reserved in advance and are \$15/each (\$10/each for WC Members). The event is December 24th from 7:30pm - 11pm at the 'Cedar Green Wine and Cheese' and will be catered by Shirley and Gordon of Happy Buddha two doors down. Friends, Family and Chinese food, what could be better right? A 50/50 raffle and fun games and prizes throughout the evening to top it all off. Tickets to this event can be purchased online at www.WorkmensCircle.org or by calling our office at (216) 381-4515 during normal business hours. Spread the word and pass the LoMein. See you there.

DRAZIN, EDITH



(nee Matlow), age 89, passed away August 26, 2016. Beloved wife of 61 years of late Sidney, loving mother of Laura Boyes (Will) and David (Carol Seymour), devoted grandmother of Adrian Boyes. She is survived by brother George and sister-in-law Marilyn. Memorial Service October 16, 2016.

Edith was a long time Pianist for the Workmen's Circle Klezmer Orchestra where she touched the lives of so many with her musical gifts.

BECK, BRIAN S.



age 63, of Chesterland. Devoted and loving father of Benjamin (Kelly) Beck of Albuquerque, New Mexico; brother of Warren (JoAnn) of Olmsted Falls, Ohio and the late Neil Beck; devoted uncle of Caitlin and Jennifer Beck; and dear friend of Amy Singer.

NATALE, ANTHONY



Anthony M. (Tony) Natale. Award-winning former Press reporter Tony Natale, 77, died August 3d in Arizona. For more than a year he valiantly fought more illnesses than anyone should have to face. Tony won several awards during his nearly 30 years at The Press. After it folded he moved to Arizona as columnist for the Phoenix Gazette. Arizona ACLU awarded Tony Journalist of the Year in 1986. After the Gazette closed he wrote for the East Valley (Arizona) Tribune for 19 years.

Tony was a Renaissance man who played guitar, sang, gardened, danced and loved opera. He is best loved for bringing people together with his kind presence. He was born in Cleveland where he met his wife of 51 years, Gail Gianasi Natale. He also is survived by two children, David (Beth Boram) and Leah Natale, three grandchildren, Emma Josephine and Milo Hinke and Jonathan Boram Collas, all of Seattle; his brother John (Mildred) of Berea and sister-in-law Arlene of Westlake. His parents, Josephine and Louis and brother Louis pre-deceased him.

Message from our Executive Director



I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year, "L'shana Tova". I hope that this New Year brings everyone happiness and health as we move into uncharted territory with the outcome of our most recent Presidential Election. Although this outcome is one that many of us did not want or at all anticipate, it is important now that we come together as a people, as a nation and as brothers and sisters, to give each other hope, love and support. It is in times like these when many of us lose hope and forget that the number one force holding us together is love. No matter who our nation's President is, our hearts and the love we show to ourselves and to one another is a choice that WE make and the most powerful contributor to the way our families and society functions. I hope that you will join us in some of the amazing events and programs we have scheduled throughout the rest of this year and through the upcoming year. I look forward to an even more successful year for our organization as we move forward. As always, my office door is always open and my phone is always on for anyone who wants to talk.

YIDDISH WORDSEARCH

L J K P G C S S H B R L D B C
E V V C A Y C J Z C F G Y U H
S X S D N H T P P B T N G B U
S U F B M V P M S Y K E N B T
I G R O Z T I B B I K N V E Z
B S O I P H A Y M H S V A K P
B Z U A I W T N S H A T O D A
E S H M U T Z T L O B R O Z H
V T I X R M N E S M D S H Z F
T C O Y C E P Q X M D R N X H
C U Z O M J V W V C N P M V L
P I C B U R Y V A T U L R N Q
Q E W H Y R G D W A F S G Y Q
Z X R M E N J P F I N U C P U
S G Q M J S G X H N N K D B S

WORDS:

Kvetch
Bissel
Bubbe
Chutzpah
Kibbitz
Mentsh
Shlep
Shmutz
Tuches
Schmooze

WE ARE NOW ON SOCIAL MEDIA

As of last week, the Workmen's Circle Ohio District has joined the most popular social media platforms. If you are a member of any of the following Social Networks, be sure to 'Add', 'like', 'share' and 'FOLLOW' us.



SNAPCHAT
@WCOhio



FACEBOOK
/workmens.district



INSTAGRAM
@WCircleOhio



TWITTER
@WCircleOhio

SAVE THE DATE!

Sun, Dec 4 – **Klezmer Orchestra Performance**

Holiday Circle Fest – Western Reserve

Historical Society

@ 1:00pm – 3:00pm

Thur, Dec 8 – **Crochet, Knit & Kibbitz Class**

Rockefeller Pointe @ 6:00pm (Cost: \$5)

Sun, Dec 11 – **Klezmer Orchestra Performance**

Montefiore Senior Living Center

@ 2:30pm – 3:30pm

Sun, Dec 18 – **Klezmer Orchestra Performance**

Menorah Park

@ 2:45pm – 3:45pm

Wed, Dec 21 – **Paint & Schmooze Party**

Rockefeller Pointe Bldg.

@ 6:30pm – 8:30pm

Cost: \$35/Person (\$25 In advance)

Thur, Dec 22 – **Crochet, Knit & Kibbitz Class**

Rockefeller Pointe @ 6:00pm (Cost: \$5)

Sat, Dec 24 – **First Night Chanukah Party**

Cedar Green Wine & Cheese

@ 7:30pm – 11:00pm

Cost: \$15/Person (\$10/member)

Thur, Jan 12 – **Crochet, Knit & Kibbitz Class**

Rockefeller Pointe @ 6:00pm (Cost: \$5)

Sun, Jan 15 – **Klezmer Orchestra Performance**

Beachwood Public Library

@ 2:00pm – 4:00pm

Thur, Jan 26 – **Crochet, Knit & Kibbitz Class**

Rockefeller Pointe @ 6:00pm (Cost: \$5)

Not sure what to do with those plastic bags from the grocery store? Recycle them by donating your plastic bags to The Mitzvah Food Pantry!

The food pantry uses plastic grocery bags for distribution of its frozen meats and breads.



You can drop off bags at the Workmen's Circle during any meeting or event or at the office between 10am & 2pm.