

## TEMPLE ISRAEL OF RIVERHEAD

### The First 100 Years: 1911 - 2011

*Remember the days of old, consider the years of ages past.*

DEUTERONOMY 32.7

1911: The Brotherhood of Jews of Riverhead incorporates. The first president is Samuel Saxstein (butcher). Other founders include: Samuel Alper, Joseph M. Brown (Max; Maximillian Broda; farmer and peddler), Jacob Hochheiser (store owner), Harry Cohn, Samuel Goldman, Shephard Goldman (butcher; peddler), Max Harding, Samuel Harding (furniture store), Simon Leavitt (movie house), Reuben Lipetz (potato broker), Morris Katz, Sam Peltz (peddler; fisherman), Joseph Puskin, Joseph Pushkin, Nathan Reitt, Alex Weisse, George Weisen (clothing store), Louis Frank (tailor; businessman).

*[This timeline includes the original spellings as found in Temple archives. The above names are a combined list of founders from prior histories. One version suggests that a group of twelve men incorporated and another lists eleven.]*

*The founding families were mostly Russian immigrants. Max and Sarah Brown had come to America as early as 1877 and moved to East Quogue in the 1890s. On Shabbat, the Browns housed Jewish peddlers in their barn to facilitate a minyan. Sarah baked challahs and fed everyone. Early records of Chevra Tifereth Israel Anshei of Greenport also list Joseph Max Brown and Joseph Pushkin among their founders in 1900.]*

1911 – 1920: During the Congregation's first decade, about thirty families belong to the synagogue. They gather for services at members' homes and in halls such as Vail's Lyceum above Simon Levitt's haberdashery on Bridge Street (now Peconic Avenue). The Congregation follows Orthodox rituals and customs. Men and women sit in separate areas. Liturgy is exclusively in Hebrew. Members lead services and cantors are engaged for the holidays. A *schochet* provides Kosher meat and teaches the members' children Hebrew, liturgy and Jewish history. The original worshippers exclude their married sons from membership, fearing that their sons would change the liturgy and religious practices. *Aliyahs* are auctioned off to raise money for the Temple. Family annual dues are six dollars.

The Sisterhood of Temple Israel organizes around 1915 and undergoes many transformations. For several years during the 1930's, the women affiliate with the Daughters of Israel, before becoming the Sisterhood again. At times Sisterhood regroups as Hadassah under the chapter name, *Yiddush Vinkle*. Less is known about the Men's Club.

1920 – 1933: During the Prohibition era, Max Brown enjoys a brisk business selling sacramental wine to patrons of all religious persuasions. Max's marketing extends to Brooklyn where he once served as the sexton and undertaker of *Congregation Baith Israel Anshei Emes* (now Kane Street Synagogue.)

1924: Property on the southwest corner of East Avenue and Fourth Street (now Northville Turnpike) is purchased and construction begins on "The Riverhead Shul", a wood framed synagogue with stucco siding. The Synagogue bears the name *Beth Hakneses Anshe Riverhead*, The Synagogue of the Men of Riverhead. The building is fitted with primitive plumbing facilities and is heated by a large oil burner that stood in the center of the room. The round stained glass window above the entrance features a Jewish star.

1925: The Congregation dedicates the new synagogue in the spring and engages a cantor for the High Holy Days.

1931: Sidney Frank's account of the synagogue history names Richard Frank as the first Bar Mitzvah in the building.

1930s: The Jewish Civic League forms in response to the rise of Hitler and anti-Semitism. The formation of the league, led by Isidore Scheinberg and Rabbi Mayer I. Herman of the Huntington Jewish Center, bring together Jews of different traditions for frequent meetings, lectures and discussions on current issues.

Sam Saxstein inadvertently stocks the Peconic River with carp when he digs a trench to link his pond to the river. Prior to the trench, there were a healthy number of fresh pike (pickerel) and perch (whitefish) in the Peconic, but no carp, a necessary ingredient for gefilte fish. So Sam puts in netting at the end of the trench to prevent his carp from escaping. The roe slip through the net. Thanks to Sam, there's carp swimming in the river today.

1936: Temple Israel assumes ownership of a cemetery in Setauket established in 1890 by *Congregation Agoodis Achim* (band of brothers). *Agoodis Achim's* members were Russian immigrant workers at the J. W. Elberson rubber factory in Setauket. When the factory burns down in 1904, many of the families relocate. The synagogue closes its doors in 1914. During World War 1, the old Setauket synagogue reopens to serve Jewish sailors stationed in Port Jefferson and Yaphank. The North Shore Jewish Center rededicates the synagogue in 1948.

The Temple's *Chevre Kadishe* (Holy Brotherhood) becomes the "Cemetery Committee". In addition to making preparations for burials, the committee oversees the necessary improvements to the neglected cemetery grounds. They add a new gate, fences, a house for religious rites and proper approaches. Max Harding presides over the committee: Max Brown, Charles Huhrman, S. Goldman, Sam Harding, A.B. Kruger, Rueben Lipetz, Joseph Michaelson, Sam Saxstein, Samuel Alper, Jacob Hochheiser, George Wiesler, Max Ostrofsky.

Subsequent leadership of the Cemetery Committee include: Herb Dresher and Shep Scheinberg. Lisa Israel and Harley Abrams currently co-chair the committee.

1937: Nazi youths march on the streets of Camp Seigfried in nearby Yaphank. The Scheinberg family is vigilant. They hide a cache of diamonds in their basement in the event the Nazis come into power and the family needs to flee.

1938: The Jewish Civic League calls on the Jewish Theological Seminary (JTS) for a student rabbi to come to Riverhead on weekends to lead services, deliver sermons and teach the children on Saturday afternoons and Sundays. Pincus Chazin guides the congregation towards Conservative Judaism. He introduces mixed seating, English and Hebrew prayers, responsive reading and congregational singing.

The Congregation affiliates with United Synagogue of America, the predecessor to United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism (USCJ).

1938 - 1940: Rabbi Morris Baumel serves the Riverhead Jewish Community as its first full-time spiritual leader and teacher. Under his guidance the Congregation grows and the Jewish Civic League disbands.

1940 – 1943: During these years, the Congregation engages a number of rabbis from JTS and calls upon the membership for lay leaders to conduct services and teach in the Sunday School.

Bob Morgan studies with Joseph Michelson for his bar mitzvah in September 1940. His grandfather Louis Mottus, a long-standing member of the Shul, was an observant Jew who never drove his car or carried money on Shabbat. The Mottus family owned a duck farm in Riverhead.

Daughters of Israel purchase U.S. War Bonds.

1943 - 1952: Rabbi Simon Resnikoff, Assistant Chaplain at the Suffolk Air Base in Westhampton, serves as part-time rabbi until his discharge from the army in December 1945, when the Congregation engages him full-time. Rabbi trained at the Mosifita Tifereth in Jerusalem. He resides with his wife, Helen in Riverhead with the permission of his commanding office. Rabbi Resnikoff works with the younger members of the Congregation to establish a more modern ritual and with the construction of a new synagogue.

1944: The Congregation changes its name to Temple Israel of Riverhead.

Lloyd Goldstein studies for his bar mitzvah with Rabbi Rabinowitz at Temple Beth El of Patchogue. Lloyd takes the train from Eastport to Patchogue everyday after school for a year. On the day of his bar mitzvah, Temple Israel's Rabbi Resnikoff leads the service because Rabbi Rabinowitz could not travel on the Sabbath. Years later, in 1953, Lloyd changes his surname to Gerard and serves as temple president in the years 1968 and 1969.

1945: A lot on the southwest corner of Ostrander Avenue and Northville Turnpike is purchased for a new synagogue. Building chairman Henry S. Cohen designs the building in the Gothic Revival style and supervises its construction. Martin D. Schluensen is the builder.

1945 – 1946: Joseph Michaelson, President (butcher)

Hank Scheinberg has the last bar mitzvah in the old shul.

1946 - 1955: Moe Goldstein, President (lumberyard owner)

1947: On August 7, 1947, the Synagogue formally dedicates the building to "The glory of God and the Brotherhood of Man", the words written over the main entrance.

The former Synagogue, located two blocks away, is sold to S. Harding and Sons, and converted for use as a furniture warehouse.

The first weddings in the new synagogue are Fran and Herbert Dresher, Pattie and Arnold Saks, and Joan and Harry Mainzer. The couples form a Young Couples Club, setting the maximum age for club members at thirty-five. Corky and Mickey Siegel join the club in 1948. Among the events the group sponsors is a Purim Masquerade Dance at the Temple Social Hall.

1950s: The Riverhead economy flourishes from thousands of acres of potato fields and millions of Long Island ducklings. Although Jewish merchants operate most of the businesses in town, the three kosher butchers (Sam Saxstein, Shep Goldman and Yudel Harding) have closed their shops. A kosher deli opens for a brief period on Main Street before closing. Old Mr. Amsterdam, a kosher butcher from Patchogue delivers meat to Riverhead homes weekly for several years. Marty, from Bayshore, takes over the route and continues into the 60's.

Membership at the Synagogue increases to more than one hundred twenty-five households. Seating for the High Holidays expands to the balcony and both classrooms. The *bimah* has a folding partition next to the reading table. On occasion, Bar Mitzvah services are taped.

A Riverhead business association holds kosher luncheons in the Synagogue. The Congregation purchases a set of china with a gold "TIR" imprint. Some say that the Men's Club sponsored these meetings.

During these years, Rabbi Simon Resnikoff (1943-1952), Rabbi Aaron Gold (1952-1957) and Rabbi Asher Shapiro (1959-1962) lead the congregation.

1952 – 1957: Rabbi Aaron Gold

Rabbi Gold serves as a full-time rabbi while getting his master's degree in education and a double doctorate in Education and in Marriage and Family Counseling at Columbia University. During his five-year tenure at Temple Israel, he serves as chaplain to two air force bases and at

Brookhaven National Laboratories. As a mohel, Rabbi Gold conducts the *brit milot* for newborn sons. The rabbi leads a lively mixed choir for services.

- 1953: Bernard Shackman, president (men's wear)  
Julius Sacks, president (produce dealer, potatoes)

The Congregation purchases property on Newton Avenue and builds a residence for the Rabbi. Prior to this time, the rabbis were housed in rented apartments.

Twelve-year-old Elaine Shackman (Kimmel) celebrates her bat mitzvah, leading a Friday night service. She says the *bruchot* and reads her *haftorah* portion from a booklet. As a girl, she is not permitted to touch the scrolls. During the following years, Elaine teaches at the Hebrew school and occasionally leads the Friday night service, when Rabbi Gold needs to go out of town. It would be several years before the Congregation officially welcomes women to participate in *bimah* honors on a Saturday service.

- 1955: Sisterhood assumes management of the Temple Gift Shop in the Social Hall. Ruth Cohen runs the shop for many years, followed by: Barbara Leaf, Dottie Karlin, Malka Gerlitz, Phyllis Van Dyne and Annette Grubman.

- 1956 – 1958: Alvin Schott, President (dentist)

- 1958: The Temple acquires additional adjoining land at the northeast corner of Northville Turnpike and Union Avenue.

Daughters of Israel begin to use the Golden Book of Remembrances for contributions, replacing the Torah Fund. Through the years Rene Chizever, Muriel Lecin and Florence Abrams maintain records and mail acknowledgement cards. Florence continues with the work in 2011.

The Sisterhood votes to give white Bibles to girls on their bat mitzvah.

Sisterhood meetings begin with the singing of the *Star Spangled Banner* and *Hatikvah*.

The B'nai B'rith Peconic Lodge no. 2196 celebrates Charter Night at a dinner held at the Henry Perkins Hotel. Solomon Raffe is installed as the lodge's first president. The lodge lasts only a few years.

- 1958 – 1959: Robert Levy, President (general store)

- 1959 – 1962: Rabbi Asher Shapiro, serves full-time while selling mutual funds as a sideline.

- 1960 - 1961: Julius Nadler, President (department store)

The Synagogue celebrates its Bar Mitzvah with a grand party at The Canoe Place Inn.

- 1961 – 1963: Mike Taraza, President (attorney)

- 1962 – 1966: Rabbi David Chanofsky

Robert Levy serves a second stint as President (1963 – 1965).

In 1965, Evie Abrams (now Evie Hudak) reads her Torah portion on a Friday night. The evening includes her singing a song from the new Broadway musical, *Fiddler On the Roof*.

- 1967 - 1968: Rabbi Stephen Lerner

- 1969 - 1970: Rabbi Joseph Hirsch

- 1968 – 1969: Lloyd Gerard, President (insurance)

Most notable accomplishment during Lloyd's tenure is in paying off the mortgage. In these years membership grows to 124 households with the addition of summer residents north and south of Riverhead.

Junior Congregation in the '60s meets on most Saturdays during the school year. The students elect one of their own to be sergeant-at-arms to escort unruly kids out of the sanctuary. Services include lots of singing. At their conclusion, there's lunch in the social hall.

1970 – 1985: Rabbi Harry Lazaros

In September 1970, Roberta Korus is the first girl to have a Saturday morning bat mitzvah. Roberta had prepared for her *haftorah* reading with Rabbi Hirsch and set the date before the synagogue engaged Rabbi Lazaros. Although the new rabbi favors a more traditional view on women's participation in the service, he allows the 12-year-old girl to read the *haftorah*. Roberta is not given an *aliyah* nor permitted to read the Torah.

Years later as a young attorney, Roberta takes a Torah cantillation class and reads the Torah at her son's bar mitzvah. A *haftorah* cantillation class follows, enabling her to chant any *haftarah*.

On September 17, 2011, Roberta returns to Temple Israel's *bimah* and chants her bat mitzvah *haftorah* during the centennial celebration.

1970: Irwin Abrams, President (education) Additional terms: 1971, 1981, 1982

The New Beginning Campaign is launched.

Long time members Muriel and Marty Isaacs and their three children make aliyah and settle in Jerusalem.

1971 – 1973: Edward Korus, President (produce) Additional terms: 1974, 1977 and 1978

A silent appeal for contributions at Kol Nidre replaces the Temple's custom of announcement of pledges.

1973 - 1974: Arthur Sanders, President (court officer)

1973 – 1976: Michael Schudrich, an energetic youth advisor, studying at SUNY Stony Brook, leads the temple's United Synagogue Youth (USY) group. Michael, the son of a Patchogue rabbi, ultimately becomes a rabbi himself and serves as spiritual leader of a Conservative congregation in Japan. Rabbi Michael Schudrich is currently the Chief Rabbi of Poland.

1975 – 1977: Harold Rosen, President (attorney)

1976: The sisterhood renovates the kitchen and bathrooms.

1979 – 1981: David Fishbein, President (county real estate department)

1980 – 1981: Presidium of Irwin Abrams, Ed Korus and Arthur Sanders

1981 - 1982: Irwin Abrams, President (education)

1982 - 1984: Irving Lecin, President (LILCO)

Member Helene Gerard curates a photographic / oral history exhibit "*And We're Still Here*" *100 Years of Small Town Jewish Life*. The East End Arts and Humanities Council sponsors the exhibit, which travels to area libraries, synagogues and cultural venues. Helene began research for the book in 1975, interviewing descendents of the early

Jewish settlers on the East End and gathering family photographs. The book includes families from Temple Israel.

1984 - 1985: William Doctrow, President (eye doctor)

The Board officially welcomes the attendance of non-Jewish spouses at High Holiday Services. The By-Laws regarding the termination of membership are amended.

The synagogue book group begins, selecting books pertaining to Jewish life. The first book selected is Simon Wiesenthal's *The Sunflowers*.

1984 – 2011: The Temple Bulletin editors on record from 1984 – 2011 are: Hannah R. Printz, Hank Arnold, Paul Lowy, Helen Hochheiser, Arthur Sanders and Allen Silver. Unfortunately, many issues of The Bulletin are lost, including all newsletters from the early decades. The centennial motivates historian Carol Levin to collect and organize the archives. Allen Silver archives The Bulletin online.

1985 - 1986: Sondra Korus + Regina Rosenblatt, Co-presidents. Sondra and Regina are the first women Presidents at Temple Israel.

1986 - 1990: Sondra Korus, President (nurse)

1985 – 2003: Rabbi Chaim Gerlitz and his wife Malka Gerlitz live part-time in the Temple's Newton Avenue house on weekends and holidays, and during the weekdays in Great Neck, where he manages the Slant/Fin heating company. Rabbi Gerlitz came to the United States in 1954 in a diplomatic position with the Israeli government. He was ordained in 1953 from Yeshiva Anshei-Mahad.

Malka caters Shabbat dinners and Passover Seders and manages the Judaica Gift shop.

During the Gerlitz years, Tashlich services on the first day of Rosh Hashanah are held at Blanche and Albert Barbanel's Ostrander Avenue home at the edge of Merritt's Pond. Tashlich afternoons include cake and schnaps at the Barbanels. Starting in 2002 after the Barbanel house was sold, the Congregation walks to Peconic River Park behind East End Arts Council for the annual casting-of-sins.

1984 - 1985: William Doctrow, President

1985: A decision to go egalitarian is determined by a congregational survey conducted after Rabbi Lazaros leaves. Women are first counted in a *minyan*. The following year, women are called to the Torah, beginning with the third *aliyah*.

1986: The Building Committee begins to explore the addition of ramps and elevators to make the building accessible to people with disabilities.

Special prayers are said for the seven astronauts who died in the Challenger tragedy.

1988: Operation Isaiah begins. This food drive introduced by USCJ supports the Long Island Council of Churches food pantry, which prepares Thanksgiving dinner for migrant workers living in our area. The Yom Kippur collection responds to Isaiah 58, "This is the fast I have chosen to share your bread with the hungry", Isaiah: 58. An additional food drive is held at Purim.

1989 - 2011: Lana Anker introduces the supermarket cards, managing the successful fundraiser for the Sisterhood of Temple Israel for twenty-two years.

1990 – 1991: Presidium presidents are Jeffrey Willner (M.D.), Linda Scheinberg, Sondra Korus

The USCJ program, "Send a Passover Package overseas to Jewish military" begins.

1991 – 1993: Linda Scheinberg, President

A Long-Range Planning Committee, led by Richard Israel and Robert Brown, begin to assess the needs of the Temple and distribute a questionnaire.

A dinner for the Israel Bond Drive is held at the synagogue, petitions from United Synagogue are signed in support of absorption load guarantees to Israel for Soviet and Ethiopian Jews and a generous check is sent to Mercaz, the Zionist Organization of the Conservative Movement.

1992: The Congregation joins in Riverhead's 200<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration, contributing a history of the congregation by Isidore and Sophie Scheinberg to a commemorative booklet, *Journey Through Time, The Riverhead Bicentennial 1792-1992*.

A policy is established for women wearing *Tallaisimi*, making it acceptable at the woman's option.

A Bar / Bat Mitzvah handbook for students is approved and distributed to students and parents upon entry into the Rabbi's class and again at the beginning of the Bar/Bat Mitzvah year.

1993 - 1994: A presidium of co-presidents rotates every three months. The four presiding sets are: Linda Scheinberg + Lisa Israel, Lisa Israel + Jeff Schulman, Phyllis Goldwyn + Phyllis Van Dyne, Lisa Israel + Richard Israel

The Jewish War Veterans hold meetings at the synagogue.

1993: Operation Drive-Thru is established to safeguard the Temple against recent acts of vandalism

1994: Support is given to the Suffolk Mikveh Fund to maintain the mikveh at the Suffolk YMHA in Commack.

A permanent sukkah is built on a new concrete patio. The Congregation has built a number of frames on this spot near the Social Hall, including one flattened in 1985 by Hurricane Gloria.

1994 - 1998: Lisa Israel, President (real estate)

1995: The Special Gifts Committee, led by Linda Scheinberg and Harold Collins, manages sales of Pew Seats, Tree of Life, Memorial Plaques, Prayer Books and Yahrzeit donations.

1996: East End Tri-Temple Committee – Judy Putzer and Jeffrey Schulman represent Temple Israel at meetings with North Fork Reform and Tifereth Israel. The Hebrew School children and their families of three congregations hold several Sunday events during the year.

The Tree of Life, designed by the W. & E. Baum Tablet Corp, is installed in the Social Hall. Members Dr. Ed and Lana Anker secure the nameplates and leaves, using dental tools from Ed's practice. Raymond and Rona Goldstein donate the funds for this project initiated in 1988. Phyllis Van Dyne manages the purchase of new leaves.

1997: Cemetery Maintenance Fund is established and fees increased. Cemetery Committee co-chairs Lisa Israel and Harley Abrams manage all cemetery matters and arrange for burials. Harley draws new architectural plans of the grounds from a 1941 survey. Regulations for the purchase of graves and proper burial are clarified. Gravesites are available to temple members of two years or more.

The organ is removed from the balcony.

Howard Levine designs a new TIR logo. The Bulletin's masthead revision in 2000 features a pen and ink drawing by Chuck McDermott.

1998 – 2010: Richard Israel, President (real estate)

1999: Artist Howard Levine's illuminated, etched windows in the Sondra and Ed Korus Social Hall are dedicated in December. The windows depict the themes: Shalom, Megillot, High Holidays and Moses.

The Ritual Committee adopts the *Sim Shalom* prayer book. The old Silverman prayer books are available free to congregants with the remainder of the books donated to Temple Tifereth of Greenport.

2000: Rabbi Gerlitz and Lisa and Richard Israel visit a synagogue in New York State that is preparing to close its doors and sell their Torahs. The Temple Israel contingent considers several smaller scrolls, which are lighter to carry. Instead, they choose a large, heavy scroll that had come from a synagogue in Poland and was hidden during the holocaust. In addition to the historical significance of this Torah, Lisa, our Maftir reader, finds the large lettering more legible and easier to read. Riverhead rededicates the twice-rescued scroll. "The Israel Torah" joins others in the Ark: "The Friedenberg", "The Abraham Goldstein", "The Esther Goldstein" and "The Hagler". The five Temple Israel scrolls are all eighty to one hundred years old.

The congregation goes online. Paul Lowy and Allen Silver develop [www.TempleIsraelRiverhead.org](http://www.TempleIsraelRiverhead.org).

Announcements in The Bulletin of Interfaith marriages are now permitted. This is against USCJ standards.

2001: Shalom Teens, a program for post b'nai mitzvah students from Temple Israel, Tifereth Israel and North Fork Reform Temple, receives a grant from UJA (Federation) for a youth group leader. They sponsor the program for three years and afterwards asks the temples to share the costs. The group briefly affiliates with B'nai Brith Youth Organization, but the teens find they prefer meetings held on the East End to traveling to the large Nassau Suffolk Region events. Shalom Teens, currently includes kids from the Riverhead and Cutchogue temples as there are no teens at Tifereth Israel. Sheila Muller serves as Temple Israel's liaison to Shalom Teens and meets with Barbara Sheryll and Ruth Eilenberg, the Shalom Teens coordinators.

The challenge to support a youth group with the small Jewish population seems to have always existed. Young Judea and USY youth groups are Shalom Teens predecessors.

2008: Guest speakers are invited for an annual "Scholar in Residence Program". The Shabbat weekend are sponsored by heis The Ira A. Roschelle MD Family Foundation.

2003: Two JTS students, Hazzan Rob Menes and Rabbi Micha Kelber share responsibilities for services and teaching with Rabbi Gerlitz during the Rabbi's illness and after his death on June 8, 2003.

A High Holy Day reading table cover is dedicated in Rabbi Gerlitz' memory.

The Ritual Committee creates the "Minyanaires Club" to insure *minyans* and increase attendance at services.

2004 - 2007: Rabbi Michael Laxmeter

A new High Holy Day Machzor is introduced and is not well received. Temple Israel is a charter member of the East End Jewish Community Council (EEJCC), along with Center Moriches Jewish Center, Tifereth Israel and North Fork Reform Synagogue. The council incorporates and has a website, [www.eejcc.com](http://www.eejcc.com)

This is the first year of distribution for the Yizkor booklets, *The Book of Remembrance*.

2006: A fundraising feasibility study addresses a capital campaign. Rob Brown's architectural plans feature a ground-level entrance, elevator, office, Rabbi's study and updated systems.



2007: The Congregation enters the electronic communication era with the Rabbi Laxmeter's weekly Shabbat-O-Gram emails, a precursor to Rabbi Siemers' TIR E Congregation blast.

Five women become B'nai Mitzvah as a class: After studying with Rabbi Laxmeter for a year, Sandy Cohen, Barbara Gradus, Lisa Israel, Sheila Muller and Karen Sulitzer Iain Tefillin on a Thursday and conduct Friday services.

2007 - present: Rabbi William Siemers.

Rabbi Siemers holds a series of adult education classes at the synagogue or local homes.

He is active in East End Jewish Community Council. The group holds community-wide picnics, educational programs and community "in-reach".

Deborah Sterne, the rabbi's wife leads Tot Shabbat and Havdallah services.

He serves as Treasurer of the Riverhead Clergy Council, which meets monthly.

Guest speakers for the annual "Scholar in Residence Program" weekends are sponsored by The Ira A. Roschelle MD Family Foundation.

2010 – present: Barbara Smith, President (bookkeeper)

2011: Richard Israel directs a Sanctuary renovation with consideration for future additions to make the building more accessible for the handicapped when funds become available. The work includes a redesigned *bimah*, new air conditioning units, ductwork, rewiring, refurbished pews and altar, painting and carpeting.

TIR ushers in the High Holidays with a new prayer book, *Mahzor Lev Shalem*.

Spearheaded by Jaime Siegel, the Congregation celebrates its centennial with a special Shabbat service, Kiddush lunch and commemorative journal.

**Note about the timeline:**

*The compiler is indebted to many people for graciously sharing their recollections. Much of the early history was extrapolated from bulletins, minutes and historical papers written by Sophie and Isidore Scheinberg, Helene Gerard and Shep Scheinberg. Jaime Siegel motivated me to begin the project.*

*Temple Israel of Riverhead's history is a work-in-progress. Kindly contact the historian at [levin\\_carol@yahoo.com](mailto:levin_carol@yahoo.com) with any additions or corrections.*